

from the Alamo
red symbol
can spirit

Police find child's body

Police found the body of a young child in a shallow grave in Epping Forest, Essex, yesterday.



Marie Payne, who disappeared in March

Earlier, Scotland Yard said that a lorry driver, aged 44, was to be charged with the murder of Marie Payne, who disappeared aged four, from her home in Dagenham, Essex, last March. The man, from Reading, Berkshire, was arrested on Wednesday. He was transferred to Barking police station, Essex, yesterday.

Aid for Briton defended

The Foreign Office defended its decision to help Ashley Paul, a London taxi driver cleared of six murder charges in California, to return to Britain yesterday after his passport was removed and notice of appeal served.

The Japanese company, Hitachi, is shedding more than 300 jobs at its television factory at Hirawari, Mid Glamorgan, six weeks after buying out GEC's share of the factory.

Games fallout

Mongolia, Bulgaria, East Germany, Vietnam and Laos, along with the Soviet Union have now announced that they will stay away from the Los Angeles Olympics.

Flying voters

The Philippines goes to the polls on Monday and President Marcos is leaving nothing to chance with massive handouts and half a million 'flying voters' on standby.

Libyan suspects

Police still believe that WPC Yvonne Fletcher was murdered by one of two Libyans, Mr Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.

PC cleared

Constable Karl Kneade was acquitted at Preston Crown Court yesterday of assaulting a man by kicking him in the face during a demonstration in Liverpool.

Dublin split

Proposals for joint Irish and British authority in Northern Ireland, rejected by the Opposition Fianna Fail party in Dublin, have widened divisions in the New Ireland Forum.

Pope's plea

The Pope left Bangkok for Rome at the end of a 10-day Far East tour. He appealed to all governments to find a solution to the refugee problem.

Brokers to sue

The brokers who sold the Signal Life gilt bonds, in which some investors lost money, are starting legal action against their professional indemnity insurers.

Yorkshire win

Yorkshire's improvement under David Bairstow continues as they beat Nottinghamshire by six runs with two balls to spare. Both teams were applauded off the field.

Leader page, 7

Letters: On press control, from Mr David Astor; charities, from Mr N. Hinton; jogging, from Mr W. J. Keilly.

Leading articles: Police and miners; Academic tenure; Sakharov

Features, page 6

Mozart lovers' debt to Glyndebourne, Woodrow Wyatt on union censorship, Billy Graham, cool crusader.

Obituary, page 8

Sir Robert Kirkwood. Classified, page 11.

UK holidays and holidays and villas

Home News	2-4	Parliament	4
Overseas	4, 5	Religion	8
Arts	8	Sale Room	2
Bridge	14	Science	8
Business	21-23	Sport	27-30
Chess	2, 14	TV & Radio	31
Court	8	Television	16
Crossword	32	Universities	32
Diary	6	Weather	32
Law Report	19	Wills	8

Banks blamed for rapid fall in share prices

By Philip Robinson and Wayne Lintott

The high street banks were widely blamed yesterday for one of the worst stock market falls for several years.

The FT-30 share index of blue-chip companies has dropped 33.8 points since the banks raised base interest rates on Wednesday.

Yesterday alone the index slumped by 13.9 to 871.0. Only last week the index had reached a record 922.8.

One statement said: "There was no justifiable domestic reason for raising bank rates in Britain." A spokesman for the Confederation of British Industry added: "The real interest rate charge, after allowing for inflation, is at an historically high level (5%) and for businesses is painful and unhelpful."

But the banks were quick to defend their action. An official of Barclays said: "If we had held the rates at the lower levels much longer we would have suffered from customers switching funds to markets offering a better return."

Another banker argued that if the Government had wanted to prevent a rise in interest rates it could easily have acted to keep them down.

Share prices of Britain's best-known companies were cut across the board yesterday with minus signs often stretching into double figures.

Government stocks were also

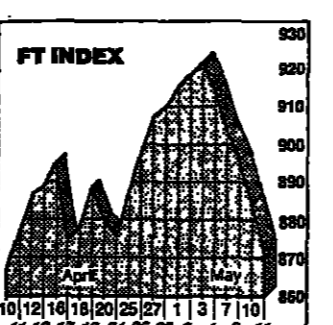
caught in the fall, with prices as much as 75p down.

Mr Mike Higgins, a partner at V. Greenwell, a leading dealer in Government stocks, felt the Bank of England's reluctant nod to a minor rise, to the 9 per cent level rather than the 9½ per cent being charged by Barclays and Midland, would maintain pressure for rates to settle at the lower rather than higher level. He added: "I think the market has over-reacted."

American interest rates look set to go even higher and British rates may come under further pressure, to protect the value of the pound in the fight against inflation.

Some stockbrokers feel that the recovery, finally working through to the heavier end of industry, could trigger increases and high private sector wage demands.

City criticism of the banks



came as a far-reaching row over Stock Exchange attempts to meet Government demands to change its rule book, to exempt the Exchange from being taken to the Restrictive Practices Court.

The number of Stock Exchange firms ready to fight a rear-guard action against the changes almost doubled yesterday, to 55.

The 55 firms opposing parts of the package represent 650 members or just over 15 per cent of total membership.

Under reforms promised to the Government last summer, fundamental changes being put forward include the abolition of minimum fees charged for share dealing, and the introduction of dual capacity - the ability of a firm to act as both a market maker in shares and an agent dealing with the public. Previously firms have had to choose one or other function.

These moves could pose a serious threat to the survival of small and medium-sized brokers, which have between two and 30 partners and employ between 10 and 100 people.

The firms are now considering fielding candidates to fight the 15 or so places which fall vacant on the policy-making Council this summer, when a third of its membership retire by rotation.

Market Report, page 23



Mr MacGregor in London yesterday: "strikers resolved to return" (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Thatcher prepared for long strike

By Philip Webster and Ronald Faux

Mrs Margaret Thatcher emphasized last night in the most categorical terms she has so far used that the Government does not intend to intervene in the miners' strike, and "made clear" that it was ready for a long haul.

Addressing the Scottish Conservative Party conference in Perth, the Prime Minister voiced regret that the dispute was "dragging on" but mocked the claim of the National Union of Mineworkers that coal stocks at the power stations would last for only eight weeks.

They had made the same claim on February 6 and that was 13 weeks ago, the Prime Minister said. There were enough stocks for many months to come.

Mrs Thatcher declared firmly: "We are not going to intervene in the coal dispute." There were great opportunities for a competitive coal industry and it was up to the miners and management of the National Coal Board to grasp them.

Some £2m a day had been invested in the coal industry since the Conservatives came to power, Mrs Thatcher said, and another £3,000m could be invested in the next four years.

The Prime Minister's speech, which covered the whole range of Government policies, effectively marked the start of her campaign for the European elections next month which will be regarded as a test of the recovery of the Labour Party under Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership.

She said that she did not

underestimate the task that lay ahead in the elections, but made clear her desire to convert Britain's European partners to the Conservative approach.

Clearly reacting to suggestions that her own tough negotiating style has been damaging in Britain's interests, Mrs Thatcher said the Conservatives would work not to destroy the Community but to preserve the best of its achievements and "to put it on a sounder basis for the tasks ahead."

She said: "In Europe we've stood up for fairer shares and better house-keeping. Oh yes, I admit, it has not always made us popular."

Citing Mr Nigel Lawson's "true radical Tory budget", the continued privatization of state industries, action to control excessive rate rises, help for home buyers and a return of economic confidence, Mrs Thatcher countered suggestions that the Government had been faltering since its election victory last June. She denied that it was being dictatorial.

Her message on the economy was optimistic. "Inflation is falling, output rising, productivity breaking all records - put those together and you get rising living standards and rising profits for investment. And that is precisely what is happening", she said.

The Conservative Party, Mrs Thatcher said, had begun to turn Britain round.

Tebbit on strikes, page 2

Sakharov plea for wife

By Our Foreign Staff

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet dissident on hunger strike, believes his wife's life is in danger if she remains in the country according to the text of a letter made public in New York.

The physicist began his indefinite fast on May 2 to press the authorities to allow his wife, Yelena Bonner, to seek medical attention in the West for a heart complaint. In the letter, he appealed to his friends abroad for support.

"She has been denied medical help. Under present conditions,

with an all-out witch-hunt organized against her and with constant KGB harassment, the medical treatment that my wife would receive in the USSR could not be effective."

"Official propaganda had been saddling my life with responsibility for my public statements, proclaiming her an imperialist and Zionist agent, and spreading the most monstrous slander about her. I will end my hunger strike only when my wife is allowed abroad. Her death will be mine as well."

Leading article, page 7

Railways face chaos as unions announce work to rule

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Disruption of rail services will start at the end of the month unless British Rail and union leaders can find a way out of a pay and productivity dispute which also threatens Sealink ferries to the Continent and Ireland.

Rail unions announced yesterday a programme of industrial action, including a ban on weekend overtime and rest day working and a strict work to rule starting on May 30, which was immediately denounced as "distasteful for the industry" by British Rail.

Announcement of the action was delayed for several hours because a meeting of the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) executive was split over whether to call more severe action including one day strikes in an effort to placate an action-planning meeting will be held next week to discuss further moves which could include no trains on Sunday.

British Rail admitted that services dependent to a great extent on overtime working and about 2 to 3 per cent of all work is done by staff who should be on rest days. Mr John Palette, British Rail's managing director for personnel said that the action would cause "considerable disruption". Passengers would receive only 24 hours notice of cancellation or delays. The unions, who are instruct-

ing their members to join the action after rejecting a 4 per cent pay offer, said that they were confident that the 160,000 railway workers would carry out the instructions. British Rail is planning to counter with a big advertising campaign and by sending letters to the homes of staff urging them not to join the action.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the NUR, said that the unions had delayed the action so that it would not interfere with the Spring bank holiday weekend and to allow the employers time to reassess their position and agree to union requests that the annual pay award should not be contingent on productivity improvement.

The management insists that it will not make the award, which it values at 4.3 per cent, until the unions have agreed to three productivity items including, one man operation of freight trains.

Both Mr Knapp and Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of the train drivers' union ASLEF, denied that the action had been sanctioned in response to a call from Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president. Mr Knapp said that the rail workers had their own dispute but added that there appeared to be growing unrest in the public sector against the Government.

Brittan set to purge illegal drug profits

By Philip Webster

The Government is planning new action against professional drug-dealers to prevent them from making a profit from their crimes after they have been convicted.

It is expected to take powers in a criminal justice bill, to be introduced later in the present Parliament, to seize the assets of criminals who have legally invested their profits from their crime in, for example, property or shares.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to receive soon the recommendations of the Hodgson Committee on the seizure of criminals' assets, which is almost certain to propose legislation.

Mr Brittan is known to be keen to act and will clear in the Commons yesterday that drug-dealers will be a main target.

Speaking during a debate on the policing of London, Mr Brittan foreshadowed legislation to ensure that "drug trafficking is both dangerous and unprofitable."

The Government's determination to launch a new offensive against drug abuse has been strengthened by research showing that the numbers of heroin addicts in Britain may be as many as 15,000, several times higher than the official figures.

Mr Brittan said yesterday that the Government would press ahead with its strategy to combat drug abuse not only through police action but by reducing the supply of drugs coming into Britain and by tighter controls on drugs produced and prescribed in this country.



Mr Brittan: "public alarmed"

Pretoria frees Kitson in time for Botha visit

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Mr Ian Kitson, South Africa's longest serving white political prisoner, was freed from jail yesterday seven months short of completing a 20-year sentence, and barely three weeks from the June 2 meeting between Mr F. W. Botha, South Africa's Prime Minister, and Mrs Thatcher.

A South African Prison Services official said Mr Kitson, aged 65, had been freed "in the normal course of events in terms of existing policy and on the grounds of good behaviour."

Mr Kitson, who has dual South African and British nationality was jailed for 20 years in December 1964 for

sabotage. He was convicted with four blacks of more than 30 acts of sabotage including planting bombs, inciting guerrilla warfare and furthering the aims of communism.

His son Stephen and daughter Amanda - the black nationalist slogan meaning "power" - who live in England have paid frequent visits to him.

Mr Kitson's release yesterday came as a total surprise but diplomatic observers were quick to link it as a move designed to enhance the climate for Mr Botha's tour of European capitals next month and especially his meeting with Mrs Thatcher.

Off the rails on the Oblivion Express

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

In Poland, as in Britain, the age of the train has arrived. Unfortunately it is parked at the wrong platform. The driver is drunk, the lavatory fittings have been pilfered and sold on the black market and mice are running wild in the freight trucks.

This picture emerges from a police report on the state of crime, waste and inefficiency on Polish railways. Operation Semaphore, a nationwide militia dragnet, turned up a station manager with moonshine equipment in his office; two shutters and a pointsman in Skieniewice were dead drunk before lunch; thirteen railway

employees were en route to alcoholic oblivion in Radom; a guard on the Czeszowa to Lublin train was found lurching from compartment to compartment; and a gang of railway workers was found breaking into a carriage to steal carpets. All this on one day.

According to this and other reports presented to the central anti-black market committee, the result of such behaviour is that thousands of parcels go astray. Trains arrive five hours late or, more disconcertingly, five hours early. On a 200-mile route trains have been known to stop several times, get lost and then, with luck, are found

again. The Rybnik kitchenware factory reports that it lost two million zloties (about £13,000) worth of pans in 1983 after rashly sending them by train and similar losses are reported from the Wroclaw Polar washing-machine factory. Under a different economic system the losses from train thefts would have been enough to bankrupt the factories but in Poland the losses are covered up with false documentation.

Large-scale theft of televisions and refrigerators from trains diverted by corrupt staff is supplemented by amateur but still effective larceny. The most common example is to strip a

lavatory of its fittings, as mirrors, sinks and lavatory cisterns are all difficult to come by. Passengers entering the lavatory in a train sometimes find nothing but a hole in the floor.

The most frequent shortcoming reported to the committee is careless loading. Not only does this lead to goods going astray, it also creates unsavoury and sometimes dangerous cocktails in the freight car. Dirty carriages, which formerly contained herrings and cement were used to transport furniture and wagons containing sulphur were up-loaded to carry a load of flour.

Three men die in oil and gas rig accidents

Three men died and two were injured in accidents at gas rigs and an oil terminal yesterday.

Two of the men are believed to have died after falling from gas drilling rigs into the North Sea. Helicopters and rescue boats searched in the area of the Arch Rowan rig off the Norfolk coast and the Cicero rig off the Humber coast, but the bodies were not recovered.

The third man died in an accident at the Scullion Voc oil terminal in Shetland when he was struck by machinery. Two of his workmates are in a stable condition in hospital.

Pitmen at work may get pay rise

By David Felton
Labour Correspondent

Striking miners were displaying a "growing resolve" to return to work, Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, said yesterday. He indicated that the board was considering paying the 5.2 per cent pay increase to those Midlands miners still working.

Mr MacGregor's comments came as unions at the threatened Ravenscraig steelworks in Scotland struck a deal which will allow sufficient coal into the plant to safeguard its future but will allow only a small amount of steel to be produced.

Leaders of four transport unions last night pledged renewed backing for the miners which, according to Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, would provide a "considerable boost" to the strike.

Areas where the unions will concentrate their efforts at stopping coal movements around the country are private wharves which import coal using non-union labour and lorry firms which employ drivers who are not members of the Transport and General Workers' Union and which have been moving coal from depots to power stations.

Other developments in the coalfields crisis as the strike ended its ninth week included a government promise of special subsidies to local authorities to cover 90 per cent of the cost of policing picket lines and a warning from the NUM that branch officials in Nottinghamshire, who have been urging defiance of the strike call, will face disciplinary action.

Mr MacGregor, speaking in London in the wake of the NUM executive meeting which prepared to dig in for a fight right through the summer, said: "We get the impression there is a growing resolve on the part of a number of people to establish their right to go back to work."

The board's answerphone service set up to explain redundancy terms had received 12,000 calls in the past week, most of them from miners on strike, Mr MacGregor said. He was "increasingly worried about the high level of intimidation, not only against the people working in the pits but against their families."

Mr Scargill reacted sharply to Mr MacGregor's remarks. He said that it was the board's chairman who was intimidating miners by threatening the closure of 50 pits. "The quicker we intimidate him back to America the better," he said.

A threatened revolt by miners at the Manton colliery in south Yorkshire petered out when a branch meeting voted overwhelmingly to continue the strike.

Policing aid, page 2

Leading article, page 7

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WILLSON SAVE & PROSPER

Brittan offers grants to help councils pay for picket line police

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, yesterday announced special subsidies to help police authorities to meet the extra costs caused by the miners' dispute, believed now to be £2.5m.

Under a complicated formula, announced by Mr Brittan in a Commons written reply, the Government and any police authority will each pay 50 per cent of the cost up to the product of a penny rate in the authority. Beyond that sum, the Government will pay 90 per cent of the bill.

A police authority with a penny rate product of £1m, which has spent £10m on policing the dispute, would pay £500,000 of the first £1m but only £900,000 of the remaining £9m.

Forces in areas where there have been heavy police costs will thus receive the greatest assistance.

Under the normal police grant the Government pays 50 per cent of expenditure.

Mr Brittan said it would be wrong for central government to bear all the additional cost.

The grant will meet most costs incurred by authorities in

helping other areas affected by the dispute.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, also announced that local authorities would not incur penalties for the extra expenditure on policing the dispute.

Mr Dennis Pettitt, leader of Nottinghamshire County Council, which faces a £20m bill for up to 5,000 policemen, said yesterday he was disappointed with the subsidy. He called Mr Brittan to treat Nottinghamshire as a special case and pay the entire bill.

Nottinghamshire has so far incurred higher costs in policing the dispute than any other authority.

Mr Pettitt said: "If the dispute ended tomorrow it would leave us with a bill of £2m".

However, Mr Pettitt welcomed Mr Jenkin's decision as Nottinghamshire could have been forced to pay £7m for every £1m over the normal police grant.

Derbyshire's bill has reached £4.5m and is rising by £110,000 every day. Mr Harry Lowe, chairman of the police committee said: "It is the biggest

single headache I have ever had".

Mrs Gabrielle Cox, chairman of the Greater Manchester police authority, described Mr Brittan's offer as a "bit of a con".

She said he had "framed the rules in such a way that not many people will be eligible for it". No money from central government would become available to police authorities until spending on the dispute has exceeded a threshold equivalent to a penny rate.

Greater Manchester would have to spend £3.3m before qualifying for help. By then the police budget would be "shot to smithereens".

One councillor said Greater Manchester's ratepayers were being fined £3m for a dispute to which they were not party and for which they have no responsibility.

The police committee decided yesterday to ask other police authorities which Greater Manchester has helped for the full costs.

The additional costs which it originally intended to request until the end of April amount to £414,000. *Leading article, page 7*



Regimental Sergeant-Major Dyson raising a drink, and some merriment, at the Royal Engineers remembrance (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

Last parade of the cadet squadron old boys

A relaxed atmosphere was clearly the order of the day at Gordon Barracks in the Kent town of Gillingham, yesterday, but Regimental Sergeant-Major Clive Dyson drew the line when he noticed a pint of beer being smuggled onto the parade ground (Rodney Cowton writes).

He marched smartly across, seized the offending glass and dashed the contents to the ground, though not before pausing briefly, with a grin, to wet his own whistle. The occasion was rather special. More than 300 civilians, now in

their 40s and 50s, had assembled to commemorate the passing of the drill square on which they had trained in the 1950s and early 1960s as officer cadets while doing their national service in the Corps of Royal Engineers.

Already the barracks has been demolished to make way for the business park which is being constructed by Gillingham Borough and Grosvenor Developments. All that was left was the parade ground, and within minutes of the parade dispersing yesterday earth-movers began digging it up.

Although General Sir Hugh Beach, Chief Royal Engineer, Major General Michael Matthews, Engineer-in-Chief, and the Mayor of Gillingham, Mr L. R. Doherty, himself a retired sapper lieutenant-colonel, and other luminaries were there, it was really Sergeant-Major Dyson's day.

Normally he drills regular soldiers at the Royal Engineer depot at Brompton Barracks, Chatham, about four miles away. Yesterday he had to make what he could of about 300 civilians most of whom had not drilled for 20 years or more.

He addressed them as "gentlemen" and not as "you horrible men", but he was standing no nonsense, as the beer episode showed. His instructions were precise.

"At the end of the parade I will say 'Officer on parade dismiss. You will turn to the right?' He then held up his right arm: 'This is your right arm', he advised the architects, chartered surveyors, industrialists and others who formed his drill squad. For recruits that would have been no joke, but yesterday's parade thought it was great fun.

Rebel pit officials face discipline

By Craig Seton

Branch officials of the National Union of Mineworkers in Nottinghamshire who have continued working along with most of their men could now face disciplinary action by the union for "undermining" the miners' strike.

The officials are due to receive letters from the union telling them to abide by national executive policy and support the strike.

They were accused yesterday of crossing picket lines, encouraging their men to continue working and creating "a union within a union". It was also suggested that they had instigated the arrest of their own members - an allegation apparently reported to the union's national strike committee by pickets from other areas.

The warning to the officials follows the persistent refusal of the majority of Nottinghamshire's 34,000 miners to join the nine-week strike.

Up to 40 branch officials in south Nottinghamshire and others in the north are involved. One official under threat at Bentley colliery said yesterday that he was expecting a union circular warning of impending disciplinary action and assumed that that would mean dismissal.

The official, who asked not to be named, said that any officers who were disciplined would almost certainly be re-elected by their members in next month's branch elections. "It is our members who are fighting for, not those other idiots", he said.

Mr Henry Richardson, the area general secretary, said yesterday: "These branch officials are undermining the dispute by crossing picket lines, encouraging their men to cross picket lines and instigating the arrest of their own members."

Branch officials were servants of the union but "we have a union appearing within a union and this is damaging". He said he believed that people were instigating a breakaway union. "It will be thwarted. We have had a breakaway union in the past and we finished up isolated", he said.

Nottinghamshire police said yesterday that hundreds of flying pickets in more than 220 vehicles travelling in convoy were stopped by a special police "interceptor squad" near Ollerton Colliery and turned back.

A petrol-filled milk bottle was thrown at Wivenhoe in Essex, where miners are trying to stop coal imports. The wood did not catch fire.

The National Union of Seamen said yesterday that it had decided to donate £5,000 to the miners' strike fund.

A miner who criticized the strike and called for a return to work in a local radio interview said that he has been told that he may lose his union card and his job.

Union officials visited the home of Mr William Nelson, who works in the Selby coalfield, in North Yorkshire.

Tebbit says strikes export jobs

From Ronald Faux, Perth

The cost of strike action is paid for with the export of jobs, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the Scottish Conservative Party conference in Perth yesterday.

Mr Tebbit hoped the lessons of the steel strike in 1980 had been learned by workers in other nationalized industries. "I hope they realize what damage that strike did, how many customers were driven away, never to return, and how many British steel workers' jobs were exported to Germany, France and the newly developed countries by that strike."

They should remember that great orders were available for British coal. There were customers in Chicago waiting to buy coal from the Durham field if the Durham field would produce it. It would be a tragedy, he said, if that coal was mined, instead, in Germany.



Mr Tebbit: "customers waiting for coal"

Libyan seige theory conflict denied

By Michael Horsnell

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the House of Commons yesterday that police still believe that one of two Libyans murdered Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher last month.

That, he insisted, did not conflict with comments at the inquest on her earlier this week by Commander William Huckleby, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch, that police had no evidence positively to identify any two of the Libyan Peoples' Bureau staff in London as her murderer but regarded all 30 as suspects.

Mr Brittan was speaking during a debate on the Metropolitan Police in which he praised WPC Fletcher, aged 25, and the work of her colleagues during the siege at the building in St James's Square.

Replying to an intervention by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Shadow Home Secretary, he said he had made clear to the Commons that it was the police view that one of two people responsible but that that was based on information which could not be brought before a court.

Mr Brittan said: "There was no evidence that could be brought before a court in relation to any one person, therefore the position certainly is that the hunt and search continues and all must be regarded as suspects."

"But on the basis of material

Joint-rule proposal widens Dublin rift

By Richard Ford

The rift between parties in the New Ireland Forum has widened further as Dr Garrett FitzGerald's Government prepares for discussions with Britain over political developments in Northern Ireland.

Mr Charles Haughey's Fianna Fail party has accused the coalition Government of "walking away from the forum" as it becomes clear that it is increasingly interested in the concept of joint authority between London and Dublin over the province.

Talks between the two governments will be held initially at diplomatic and civil servant level, examining the realities that must be faced to reach any settlement of the problem. These may be supplemented by a meeting between Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and Mr Peter Barry, the republic's Minister for Foreign Affairs, but there is unlikely to be a full Anglo-Irish summit before the autumn.

Dr FitzGerald will meet Mrs Thatcher at the next meeting of EEC heads of government, although the full British response to the forum will not be made until after the EEC elections in June.

Interest in both capitals is focusing on joint authority, with Dr FitzGerald already stating that it need not necessarily involve an end to British sovereignty in Northern Ireland, and that this situation could remain even if there was a change of majority in the province.

One of the attractions of joint authority is that it avoids the problem of sovereignty, although Unionist politicians see it as the thin end of a wedge and regard any idea of joint security cooperation involving Irish security forces from the Irish Republic in patrolling Northern Ireland, or all-Ireland courts, as a diminution of British sovereignty.

Fianna Fail says that the Dublin Government has no mandate from the forum to drop the concept of a united Ireland, and that it is its duty to put forward the case for Irish unity.

Mr Haughey has insisted that a unitary state is the only solution that will bring peace and stability, while Dr FitzGerald is prepared to consider other options.

Letters, page 7

Senior staff take GCHQ lie tests

By Peter Hennessy

Senior staff from the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) have been undergoing lie detector tests at the Security Service, M15, as part of the Government's pilot scheme to determine whether the polygraph should be added to those anti-penetration defences designed to keep the KGB out of Britain's security and intelligence services.

Nearly all senior managers at GCHQ have volunteered for the experiment and most of the tests have been completed. They were carried out by two M15 officers trained in polygraph techniques in the United States. No GCHQ personnel have been taught how to use the lie detector, and no machines are on site in Cheltenham.

It is not clear, given the delicacy of staff relationships at GCHQ since national trade unions were banned from the intelligence centre in March, if and when the polygraph pilot scheme will be extended to the middle and lower ranks.

Members of the security service, M15, are also involved in the trial. The Government maintains that no decision has yet been taken on whether to adopt the polygraph.

Few in Whitehall have had real doubts about its eventual use on a regular basis, moreover, since the Security Commission report on the case of Geoffrey Prime, the GCHQ linguist convicted of spying for the Soviet Union, recommended last year that lie detectors should be used on members of the secret services.

Karpov wins in last round

By Harry Golombek

A quick draw in 22 moves with the British grandmaster, John Nunn, in the thirteenth and final round of the Phillips & Drew GLC King's Tournament yesterday, gave Anatoly Karpov the first prize of £3,500. His nine-point score was higher by one half, than in 1982 when he tied for first place with the Swedish Grandmaster, Ulf Andersson.

Two more games were drawn after a harder fight between Korchnoi and Polugaevsky, and Seirawan and Timman. Ribli maintained pressure against Miles, who defended stoutly but eventually lost after 48 moves.

In the remaining three games, draws are expected between Vaganian and Speelman and Torre and Andersson while there are good winning chances for Mestel against Chandel.

Scores: Karpov 9½, Polugaevsky 8, Chandler 7½ and one unfinished and Timman 7½, Ribli and Seirawan 7, Korchnoi 6½, Vaganian 6 and one unfinished, Miles 5½, Andersson and Speelman 5 and one unfinished and Nunn 5, Mestel and Torre 4½ and one unfinished.

● Tass, the Soviet news agency, said yesterday that the World Chess Championship final between the holder, Anatoly Karpov, and Garry Kasparov will be held in the Soviet Union on September 10 (AFP reports).

Overseas selling prices: Karpov £3,500, Seirawan £1,500, Nunn £1,000, Ribli £1,000, Miles £1,000, Korchnoi £1,000, Polugaevsky £1,000, Chandler £1,000, Timman £1,000, Vaganian £1,000, Speelman £1,000, Andersson £1,000, Mestel £1,000, Torre £1,000, Chandel £1,000.

Shorts linked to De Lorean plant

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

Short Brothers, the Belfast aerospace company, said yesterday that they are seeking ways of expanding their capacity despite the fact that they already have more than 2 million square feet of production space at their East Belfast factories. Buoyant sales of the company's computer-aided aircraft, in particular, are resulting in severe pressure on present space.

The company would not comment yesterday on local speculation that it may take over the former De Lorean car plant on Belfast's south west outskirts which was completed only three years ago and now stands vacant.

Occupation of the De Lorean

plant, which is close to Belfast's main Catholic suburbs, would also ease Shorts' problem of correcting the present employment imbalance among its 6,500-strong workforce.

The company has recently tried to recruit more Catholics, particularly apprentices, to counter Irish-American allegations that it actively discriminates against them. The results of the efforts to date have been "disappointing", the chief executive, Sir Philip Foreman, said earlier this week. A reluctance among young Catholics to travel into solidly Protestant East Belfast is thought to be a key factor, but this would not apply in the case of the De Lorean plant.

Mystery of lost soldiers

By Our Defence Correspondent

The Army could offer no explanation yesterday for the fact that over the past 10 years 437 soldiers have disappeared while serving in West Germany.

The figure emerged in a correspondence between Mr Kevin McNamara, a Labour spokesman on defence, and Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces.

A letter from Mr Stanley said that during the same period there had been no long-term absentees from the RAF in Germany, and that among soldiers in Northern Ireland there were only 38.

Figures given by the Minis-

try of Defence yesterday showed that during the 10 years there have been only 75 unresolved long-term absences throughout the RAF. In the Royal Navy the figure was 248.

In his letter Mr Stanley said that none of the Army's long-term absentees were known to have taken arms. There was no reason to believe that any had defected to Warsaw Pact countries.

The Ministry of Defence compared the absences to the some 5,500 civilians who disappear each year in Britain. It pointed out that at any one time there were almost 60,000 soldiers in West Germany.

Cowley talks fail to end Montego stoppage

By Clifford Webb

The strike which has halted production of Austin Rover's new Montego saloon car since Thursday evening appears likely to continue next week.

Talks between local union officials and plant management at Cowley, Oxford, failed to resolve the dispute yesterday. However, the company has told 400 men who have been laid off to report in on Monday, in the hope that the deadlock may be broken in informal discussions over the weekend.

Forty men working on the Montego final trim assembly line walked out on Thursday complaining that their productivity bonuses of £16 a week were only half the amount the company had said they could earn.

Management has said that

bonuses are paid for the efficiency of the whole plant and have been depressed by a series of similar unofficial strikes in recent weeks.

Another potentially damaging dispute concerns staff opposition to the introduction of three-shift working in the adjoining body plant. An extended meeting between unions and management ended with the two sides as far apart as ever on the issue of socially acceptable hours involved in the round-the-clock working.

Union officials have warned Austin Rover that if it attempts to impose three-shift working it could face a complete shutdown. They have called a mass meeting of all 4,500 workers in the body plant for next Wednesday.

Management has said that

Jockey tells of tip

Kevin Darley, the jockey, told a jury at York Crown Court yesterday how he won a race on a horse at the centre of an alleged racing swindle. He said that the gelding he was told was the two-year-old Flockton Grey, left the field behind. The night before the Leicester meeting he received a mystery telephone call tipping him on how to run the race.

But Mr Darley, aged 23, said he had no idea that the horse might not be a two-year-old.

Kenneth Richardson, aged 47, a businessman and gambler, and his racing manager, Colin Mathison, aged 46, are alleged to have given the horse its false identity to cash in on a £20,000 betting coup.

Mr Richardson, of Jubilee House, Hutton, North Humber-side, and Mr Mathison, of World View Road North, Driffield, and Mr Peter Boddey, of Hazel Close, Driffield all deny conspiracy to obtain property by deception. The trial continues.

Milk strike plan denied by farmers

By Peter Hennessy

It is almost certain that Professor Sir Andrew Huxley, the eminent biophysicist, will be the next Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Mr John Calford, the Downing Street Appointments Secretary, has paid his last visit to Trinity and returned to London able to inform the Prime Minister that the senior fellows have expressed a clear preference for Sir Andrew.

Unless Mrs Margaret Thatcher intervenes to replace Sir Andrew with a candidate of her own [though unlikely in both Whitehall and Cambridge], Sir Andrew's name will be recommended to the Queen, with whom the final appointment rests. An announcement is expected next month.

Sir Andrew, aged 66, a former Trinity man, is Royal Society Research Professor in the Department of Physiology at University College London. If he does succeed Professor Sir

Sir Andrew Huxley firm favourite for Trinity

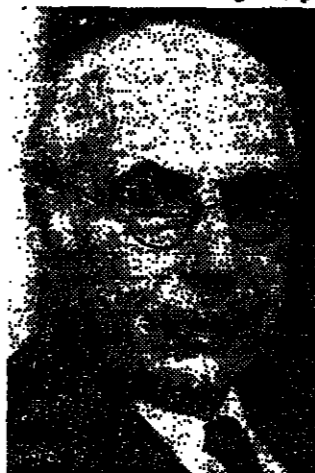
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Sir Andrew. The clear choice of senior fellows

Alan Hodgkin, who won a Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1963, it will rupture a Trinity tradition whereby the mastership alternates between scientist and a scholar in the humanities.

Sale room

Eighteenth century suite sets record

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's secured their highest prices ever for Dutch furniture in their Amsterdam sale room yesterday when a suite of eighteenth century floral marquetry furniture was sold to a private collector for £22,000 guineas, or £120,000.

The suite belonged to a Dutch nobleman, Godard John George Charles, Count of Aalsburg Bentick and Lord of Amerongen. It was formerly at the Castle of Amerongen and is thought to have been made by the renowned cabinet maker, Jan van Makenen of Amsterdam.

It was sold as four separate lots: a cabinet on stand for 342,000 guilders (estimate 250,000g) or £78,628; a side table for 91,200 guilders (estimate 50,000 to 60,000g) or £20,965; a pair of octagonal gueridons for 36,000 guilders (estimate 18,000g) or £8,386; and a mirror for 43,320

guilders (estimate 32,000 to 35,000g) or £9,938. The two-day auction totalled £323,438, with 34 per cent unsold.

Sotheby's meanwhile had their most successful South African auction, which was devoted to the Rogoff collection of South African and European art and antiques, and totalled £565,326 with only 0.5 per cent left unsold.

Most of the paintings were by late nineteenth or early twentieth century South African artists. Pieter Vunning's view of Malta Farm at 82,000 rand (estimate £30,000-50,000) or £46,067, secured the highest price ever paid at auction in South Africa.

There were 12 auction price records for the work of individual artists, including R41,000 (estimate R9,000-R12,000) or £23,034, for "Namequand landscape" by

Pieter Hugo Naudé, and R25,000 (estimate R5,000 to 8,000) or £14,045m for a still life by Jan H. Eversen.

A series of sales in Florence by Sotheby's had an uneven result this week and significant items failed to sell. The notable nineteenth century pictures were unsold as was a fine sixteenth century terracotta lunette from the studio of Giovanni della Robbia (unsold at 44m lire or £18,400).

By contrast, the Italian furniture market was much stronger and a late eighteenth century marquetry commode from the Lombardy workshop of Giuseppe Maggiolini made 56.5m lire (estimate 40m to 60m lire) or £23,061. A set of seven late seventeenth century walnut chairs from Liguria sold for 36.2m lire (estimate 25m to 35m lire) or £14,759.

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Reagan sways Congress to grant urgent military aid to Salvador

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

The House of Representatives vote in favour of urgent military aid to El Salvador on Thursday night has again demonstrated President Reagan's ability to sway Congress in his favour on a highly contentious issue.

Central America is seen as the most divisive foreign policy issue in the election campaign, one which opponents hoped would undermine his popularity. However, 56 Democrats, including Mr James Wright, the House majority leader, voted for the President's request for military aid to El Salvador without tying the funds to progress on human rights there.

The President's close but crucial victory owed much to the persuasiveness of his television broadcast to the American people the previous night, in which he gave warning of the growing Soviet- and Cuban-backed insurgency in Central America and the threat this posed to the United States.

The apparent Salvadoran election victory of the moderate Señor José Napoleón Duarte in the election was another key factor. Señor Duarte, who is expected to visit Washington soon, sent a telegram to House members urging them to approve the aid package just before the vote was taken.

The 212-208 vote approved the Administration request for \$129m (£22m) in military aid to

Duarte stays in the lead

Señor Duarte has an 11.53 per cent lead in the El Salvador presidential race over his rival, Major Roberto D'Ambrosio. It was announced officially after 63 per cent of the votes had been counted (AFP and Reuters reports).

Of the 957,151 votes, Señor Duarte had 533,771 (55.76 per cent) and Major D'Ambrosio 423,380 (44.23 per cent), according to the Central Election Council.

Señor Duarte praised the US Congress for approving aid for Central America.

El Salvador this year, as well as \$132.5m for fiscal 1985.

It is expected that the House and Senate will now go on to approve the President's request for \$61.5m in emergency military aid to El Salvador next week.

"He gets everything," said Mr Michael Barnes, the Democratic Representative for Maryland, who had led the campaign against granting additional military aid to El Salvador, on the grounds that it would lead to growing US military involvement in Central America.

What the President has not got, however, is House approval for the additional \$21.5m being sought for covert CIA operations in Nicaragua. This has

been passed by the Republican-controlled Senate but faces tough opposition in the House because of the CIA's role earlier this year in mining Nicaraguan's ports.

The Administration has reacted with equanimity to the interim ruling of the World Court in The Hague calling on the United States to halt the mining and to refrain from military activities that would jeopardize Nicaragua's right to sovereignty and political independence.

The State Department said: "Our initial reaction is that nothing contained in the measures indicated by the court is inconsistent with current US policy or activities with respect to Nicaragua."

American officials emphasized the word "current" in the United States response, noting that mining operations, which caused an uproar in Congress, ceased last month. But they also said the United States would continue to finance the Nicaraguan rebels fighting the left-wing Sandinista regime.

The Administration maintains that its aim in helping the insurgents is not the overthrow of the Managua Government but to prevent the supply of arms to left-wing guerrillas in neighbouring El Salvador.

The State Department expressed disappointment that the United States request for Nicaragua's case to be dismissed has not been upheld



Airlift anniversary: Celebrating 35 years since the end of the 11-month Soviet blockade of Berlin are, left to right: M. Jean Sauvagnargues, French Ambassador at the time of the airlift, and his wife Miss Eleanor Dulles, sister of John Foster Dulles, former US Secretary of State; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Patrick Hine; Herr Eberhard Diepen, Mayor of Berlin; and Mr William Clark, US Secretary of the Interior and his wife. Behind them at Tempelhof airport is a 'raisin bomber', one of the aircraft which flew supplies into the beleaguered city.

Taxi driver decision defended by Britain

By John Witherow in London
and Ivor Davis in Los Angeles

The Foreign Office last night defended its decision to help a London taxi driver return home despite the possibility that he could face further murder charges in California.

The decision to grant Ashley Paule emergency travel documents soon after the Americans had removed his passport provoked angry condemnation in Los Angeles. Judge Ronald George said the British Government was ignoring public safety and has shown disregard for the judicial process.

Although Mr Paule had six murder charges against him dismissed on Monday, the District Attorney had served notice to appeal against the ruling and this was due to be heard in two weeks time. Meanwhile the court had removed Mr Paule's passport and requested him to stay in California, although it had not ordered him to do so.

The Foreign Office maintained the decision had been taken after "careful lengthy consideration" and only with London's approval. It said there were no charges against Mr Paule, so it had given him the papers on Monday evening after normal office hours.

But Judge George, who will hear the appeal, said: "Frankly I feel they've shown disregard for the judicial process and for the safety of American and British citizens. This isn't as if it's a two-bit burglary. You do realise there are six murders here?"

On Monday a judge ruled that because Mr Paule, aged 43, had been offered immunity from prosecution, he could not be brought to trial for the murder of his neighbours, Peter and Joan, Davis, an English couple who had moved to California, and four members of the Israeli Salomon family.

The families disappeared in 1982 and the bodies have never been found. Anyone convicted of the murders would face the gas chamber or a life sentence with no parole.

Mr Paule's lawyer, Mrs Leslie Abramson, argued that he had been granted immunity and returned voluntarily from London as a witness for the prosecution, only to discover he was charged with the murder together with his cousin and another man. All charges against the three have now been dropped.

Olympic officials descend on Moscow for final effort

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The consensus in Moscow is that little short of a dramatic personal appeal to the Russians will persuade the Kremlin to change its mind before the June 2 deadline. Vietnam yesterday became the third Soviet ally to join the boycott, after Bulgaria and East Germany. Like Moscow, Hanoi claimed its athletes would at risk in Los Angeles and said Vietnamese émigrés in America had planned hostile demonstrations and "acts of terrorism".

Sources said communist block sports officials - including North Koreans - are meeting behind closed doors in Moscow to consider the next move, which may involve an alternative communist Olympiad.

A similar meeting was held here on April 5 shortly before the Kremlin outlined its complaints.

President Kim Il Sung arrives in Moscow on May 23, and diplomats believe the 1988 Seoul Olympiad is at risk. *Sovetskaya Rossiya* said yesterday that anti-Cuban terrorists in Los Angeles had been planning revenge for the shooting down of the South Korean airliner.

The Soviet press said Mr Reagan's expressions of surprise and regret at the withdrawal were a fake. *Izvestiya* said Mr Reagan was obsessed with denigrating Russia. "Emigrant scum" including thousands of "anti-Soviets" and "Fascist flunkies", had been planning an "unbridled anti-Soviet orgy" in Los Angeles, with political and financial support from the American authorities.

Señor Samaranich will convene an emergency meeting of the IOC in Lausanne next Friday after his Kremlin talks.

Seoul may suffer same fate

By Simon Scott Plummer

The Soviet decision to withdraw from the Los Angeles Olympics has come as unwelcome news to South Korea, which is to stage the 1988 Games and is counting on the presence of Communist teams in Seoul to enhance its international image.

Mr Lee Young Ho, Minister of Sport, said Thursday that the Russians' decision was regrettable and added that he hoped they would change their minds.

"Politics and sport should not be connected under the Olympic spirit and I hope that the decision will not affect other countries' attitudes towards the Games", he said.

The Soviet withdrawal is a bad portent for South Korea, which is hoping to normalize its relations with communist countries through the participation of their athletes in the 1988 Games. As yet, none of them has diplomatic links with Seoul.

The acceptability of South Korea as a venue for international athletic meetings will be put to the test two years before 1988 when Seoul hosts

The Reagan letter

This is the full text of the letter handed on May 8 by President Reagan to Señor Samaranich, president of the International Olympic Committee:

"I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you today and to hear from you about plans for the Games of the twenty-third Olympiad in Los Angeles this summer.

As I said during our meeting, the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee has the full support of the United States Government in making preparations for the Games. The United States is totally committed to upholding the Olympic Charter and fulfilling its responsibilities as the host nation of the Games.

The Olympic Games should not be used for political purposes. Athletes and Olympic officials of all countries will find a warm

welcome in Los Angeles and will be treated equally and without discrimination, in accordance with the Olympic Charter and the Olympic spirit.

I have instructed agencies of the Federal Government to cooperate fully with Olympic and local officials to ensure the safety of all participants. We want to create an hospitable climate in which all participants can perform to the best of their ability.

I consider sport to be one of the finest opportunities for people of all nations to come to know and understand each other. The International Olympic Committee deserves the support of all governments in arranging the premier sporting event for athletes of all nations. I am looking forward personally to seeing the outstanding athletes of the world marching behind their flags on July 28."

the 1986 Asian Games, to which both China and North Korea are invited.

North and South Korea have held two rounds of talks at Panmunjom on the possibility of fielding a joint team at Los Angeles. These have ended in mutual recrimination, with Seoul asking Pyongyang to apologize for the bombing in Rangoon.

Pope urges governments to help refugees return to their homes

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok

The Pope last night made a strong appeal to world governments to find long-range solutions to the problems of refugees in Thailand and elsewhere. Speaking in Bangkok at the end of his Asian and Pacific tour, he urged governments to increase efforts to find ways of enabling refugees to return to their homelands.

Addressing Thai Government leaders and the diplomatic corps before flying back to Rome, he said the international community could not ignore the sad lot of the refugees. The conscience of humanity had to be made ever more aware of it. He was impelled to speak out on the refugees' behalf.

Resettlement in other countries could never be the final answer to the refugees' plight "they have a right to go back to their roots, to return to their native land with national sovereignty," he said.

That would only be possible if there was genuine reconciliation between nations and within nations. "In a word, there is an urgent need to forgive and forget the past and to work together to build a better future." United efforts by Christians and members of non-Christian religions in reconciling individuals and groups could be a fruitful field on common labour. Earlier yesterday the Pope visited a refugee camp south-east of Bangkok where 18,000 Cambodians, Vietnamese and Laotians are living calling them "Dear brothers and sisters" he spoke of 2,000 of the refugees, most of them Catholics. The other inmates of the camp were not permitted on to the soccer field where the Pope addressed his audience.



Floral welcome: Thai girls scattering petals in the path of the Pope as he arrives at Bangkok's Assumption Cathedral.

Speaking in English which was translated into Khmer, Vietnamese and Thai, the Pope told the refugees he wished to share their sufferings so they would know someone cared for them, sympathized with their plight and worked to find them relief, comfort and a reason for hope.

group were detained by Bangkok police after they were caught with "a pile" of anti-catholic leaflets which they planned to distribute during the Pope's visit, a senior police officer said yesterday (AP reports).

The men, who were held for investigation, said they belonged to the Buddhist Protection Organization. They were later released.

● Buddhists held: Two men belonging to a radical Buddhist

Thousands homeless in Italy's third earthquake

Rome - More than 20,000 people were made homeless after the third earthquake in a fortnight struck central Italy yesterday. The main shock, measuring 4.9 degrees on the Richter scale, was felt as far away as Rome and Naples and had its epicentre in the national park of the Abruzzi (John Earle writes).

Early reports said two people died and 31 were injured. The mayors of four Apennine villages ordered the evacuation of a total of 7,500 inhabitants. This added to the 12,925 officially stated to be homeless in the area after last Monday's earthquake.

The first of the three quakes, on April 29, left several thousand homes uninhabitable in the Umbria region.

ETA sentences confirmed

Lerida (Reuters) - A Spanish court martial sentenced eight members of the Basque separatist group, ETA, and a Catalan separatist to prison terms of up to 18 years for a 1980 arms raid on an Army barracks.

In a retrial ordered because most of the accused refused to be represented by lawyers at their court martial last October, the military judges confirmed the 18-year sentences received by the ETA members and reduced the other sentence from 10 years to eight.

Poison threat to food firm

Tokyo (AP) - Letters threatening to poison products of a Japanese confectionery company with cyanide have resulted in the removal of the company's products from more than 600 stores.

Harassment of the Ezaki Glico Company began on March 18 when the president of the firm was abducted from his Osaka home. After he escaped from his kidnappers three days later a series of arson attacks and threats began.

Desert defences expanded

Rabat (Reuters) - Morocco has completed a new line of desert defences designed to seal off the Algerian frontier and prevent incursions by Polisario guerrillas into the Western Sahara, according to informed sources.

The defences, built by the Moroccan Army, stretched from Zag in southern Morocco, across the Western Sahara to join up with other defensive walls built over the past two years.

Nigeria trials

Lagos (AFP) - Nigeria's military Government has confirmed that a special military tribunal will begin trials of some 506 detained politicians and other officers of the ousted civilian administration.

Suharto plea

Jakarta (AFP) - President Suharto urged the US not to strengthen ties with China at the expense of relations with non-communist South-east Asia during a one-hour meeting with Vice-President George Bush.

Dissident held

Prague (AFP) - Ladislav Lis, a leading Czechoslovak dissident, who has been on probation since March, is serving 14 months in jail for having been arrested. Friends said he was charged with failing to seek permission to leave Prague for two long weekends.

Soviet threat

Tokyo (Reuters) - Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, told Japanese leaders that the Soviet Union was strong enough to fight a war in Asia and in Europe at the same time. He is on a one-day visit to Tokyo.

Bag check

Lagos (AFP) - Mr Saloum Kande, Senegal's Ambassador to Nigeria, called for a diplomatic bag sent from his country to be publicly opened to disprove claims that it contained illegal imports of Nigerian currency.

949 deaths

Dhaka (Reuters) - A total of 949 people, mostly children, have died of dysentery and other intestinal diseases in Bangladesh in the past month, health officials said.

Street protest

Valparaiso (Reuters) - About 100 Chilean prostitutes were dispersed by riot police after they set fire to street barricades during a protest against the closing down of brothels.

Homecoming

Santiago (Reuters) - Claudio Arrau, who left Chile aged eight to find international fame as a concert pianist, came home after an absence of 17 years. Arrau, now 81, was welcomed at Santiago airport by a choir, schoolchildren and crowds of wellwishers.

Nicaragua hits out after court ruling

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Nicaragua has accused President Reagan of leading the American people towards bankruptcy, after the refusal of the United States to recognize the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice over Central America.

The court, in a preliminary hearing on Thursday pending final judgment on the legality of American actions against Nicaragua, ordered the United States to desist from mining the country's ports and to refrain from any military acts that might jeopardize its political independence.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, Father Miguel D'Escoto, said: "Clearly what it is saying is that the United States must stop its illegal actions right away; it must respect Nicaragua's right to self-determination and cease its policy of using force to bend the political will of a sovereign and independent nation."

"Obviously the United States believes that Central America is not to be considered as an area of independent nations. This is really preposterous. It is unbelievable and unrealistic."

"I can see the United States, for example, saying that the International Court cannot consider matters of its internal domestic jurisdiction, but to tell the court it is not supposed to consider any case in Central

America for the next two years is really the summit of all arrogance."

"It is doing damage to that nation, and it must be embarrassing the great people of the United States, who would like their country not to be characterized as an international outlaw with a government that practices and formulates state terrorism."

He said the United States had always presented itself to the world as a power respectful of the law and as a staunch supporter of the International Court in the Hague. Its present position was "uncharacteristic" and represented an historic departure.

"This shows how the Reagan Administration's policies towards Central America are exhausting the moral capital of the United States and risking a total state of moral bankruptcy," Father D'Escoto said.

● Rebel's comment: Señor Alfonso Robelo, chief political spokesman for the Costa Rican-based Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (Arde), said the World Court's decision would not affect the rebels' military activities. He left open the possibility that Nicaragua's ports might again be mined.

Señor Robelo called the decision "a problem between the US and the court."

Three-way Belize talks

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Exploratory talks on the future of Belize were held by officials from Guatemala, Belize and Britain at the Guatemalan mission to the United Nations on Wednesday. Foreign Office sources said last night.

They followed a series of informal contacts since January 1983 when the last series of negotiations broke down almost as soon as they began. There is

no suggestion of a fresh initiative.

Guatemala has a long-standing claim to all or part of Belize formerly known as British Honduras, which became fully independent in 1981. About 1,800 British troops remain to help protect the country until a satisfactory agreement with Guatemala can be reached.



Father D'Escoto: "US must stop illegal actions."

Costa Rica defends neutrality

From Martha Honey
San José

While publicly denying US pressure, some Costa Rican officials say privately that the Reagan Administration is pressuring them hard to abandon their policy of neutrality, accept more military aid, and take a much harder line against Nicaragua.

"The pressure has increased tenfold," one senior official said. The Washington Post reported on Thursday that a leaked State Department document outlines a US strategy to provoke confrontation between Nicaragua and Costa Rica and push the latter away from its neutral stand.

However, some well-placed Costa Rican officials say the strategy in the document appears to be already in operation. One said the CIA seemed to have started a "black propaganda" campaign

Matabeleland tour aftermath

Harare says reports disproved

From Stephen Taylor
Bulawayo

In the wake of a bizarre two-day escorted tour of the Matabeleland South curfew area, the Zimbabwe Government was claiming yesterday to have discredited press reports of extensive Army atrocities in the province.

Foreign correspondents, however, who were recovering after a chaotic, exhausting and at times disturbing two days in the bush, felt that the trip had left many questions unanswered and that there was a clear need for an independent inquiry into Army conduct.

The episode has, if anything, increased the strain between the Government and the international press. One correspondent in particular, Mr Peter Godwin of *The Sunday Times*, has been singled out for official condemnation. He has reported the existence in Matabeleland of a "death camp" and a mine-shaft where bodies of murdered civilians had been dumped.

During the escorted tour Mr Godwin, a Zimbabwean citizen, was threatened by Lieutenant-General Rex Nkhomo, commander of the Zimbabwe Army, and at a press conference yesterday Mr John Tsimba, director of Information, in an attempt to discredit Mr Godwin, described him as a former member of a Rhodesian anti-guerrilla unit.

Earlier Mr Tsimba said: "We have been where you wanted, and we have found no evidence of genocide. If you continue to write stories about mass graves we will know you have a vendetta against us."

In spite of evidence of other brutality, officials indicated yesterday there would be no official inquiry.

As pointed out by Mr Tsimba and General Nkhomo, who dismissed all allegations as "bloody lies", journalists were able to choose areas to visit. But because of the loss of the entire first day, when the Army party got lost in the bush, they

actually got to only three out of a priority list of eight places.

At Donkwe Donkwe school local people, faced by a barrage of pressmen and photographers - including some from the Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) - described burying six men who were shot dead by soldiers. Foreign journalists objected to officials about the CIO's photographing of witnesses, but it continued.

At Mshabazi an American missionary, Dr Devere Boyd, said he had treated more than 120 people who claimed to have been beaten by soldiers, some so severely that they needed skin grafts. He said that on occasion soldiers who identified themselves as being from the Fifth Brigade had taken patients from the hospital against his wishes.

Dr Boyd said he had written weekly to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, advising him of what was happening but had received no reply.

Hopes grow for Namibia ceasefire

Lusaka (AP) - Delegates from South Africa and the Swapo guerrilla movement yesterday began their first negotiations in three years towards ending one of Africa's longest bush wars and bringing Namibia to independence.

Representatives of Swapo South-West Africa People's Organization, six Namibian political parties and the South African Administration in

Namibia gathered in Mulungushi Hall. It appeared to be the closest approach to peace in the disputed territory since a Geneva peace conference collapsed in 1981 over procedural and political issues.

President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, co-chairman of the talks and a leader in efforts to resolve southern Africa's racial and ideological conflicts, called the negotiators together.

Delegates expressed cautious optimism that the two-day meeting could at least set an agenda for further talks on the future of Namibia. At best, they said privately, there could be a breakthrough towards a ceasefire.

Premiere Kaunda had separately meeting with Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo, and members of the Namibian parties before the conference

SPORTING DIARY

The horse's mouth

El Gran Señor, the overwhelming winner of the 2,000 Guineas last Saturday, has been described as the ultimate racing machine. But he is not without blemish. True, his tumultuous finish has led him to be compared with such winners as Nijinsky and Sir Ivor, and he is confidently expected to give Vincent O'Brien his seventh Derby winner. Even at even money, he seems to be the only horse in the race worth backing to win. But he has a bizarre flaw: a parrot mouth. That is, his upper jaw overshoots the lower, a defect that would have left him unable to eat had he lived in the wild. But there is no problem for a stable-fodder horse, and it certainly won't affect his chances at Epsom.

Hard labour

Never let it be said that the Labour Party does not count in the long run. MP Dick Douglas will be flying the flag for Labour in the London Marathon tomorrow despite being outnumbered by four Tory MPs on the starting grid. He finished the course last year, and is all set to do the same again, after training on Ascension Island, through the streets of Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands, and in Cyprus: to all of which places his duties as a member of the House of Commons select committee on defence have taken him.

Baa-baa's teeth

The French Barbarians are coming to Twickenham on September 1 to play the Harlequins to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the latter's first match at the ground. Organizers were wondering if one of the founders of the French Baa-baas, Jean-Pierre Rives, would be coming. The Barbarian treasurer, Marcel Martin, said: "Oh, I think so. He lost two teeth at Twickenham, and he'll want to come back to look for them."

Solid fuel

Richard Kluge has discovered the vital ingredient for marathon running - bread pudding. "I ate a piece on a recent training run, and it gave me a tremendous uplift," said Kluge. "So I will be taking plenty with me for the London Marathon." Kluge, a diabetic, has come from Australia to take part in the run to test a new machine to help diabetics control the condition. He added: "I'll be taking plenty of jelly beans too - they are absolutely vital."

● The Botswana Defence Force football team, now touring England, have just beaten a London District Services' side 6-3. A stunned observer said: "They don't know how to defend - but they're great on the attack."

Power base

The extraordinary explosion of interest in baseball - the English Southern League has taken on a new dimension this season - is crowned by this weekend's visit of the ultimate power in baseball, the resonantly named Bowie Kuhn, the commissioner of baseball in the United States, will watch the Cobham Yankees take on the night of the London Warriors on Sunday.

Pools win

Dealing with the demands for money for "players pools" at Cup Final time is normally a sordid business. How typical, then, of Watford, to set the whole grubby issue on a gentlemanly basis with a pleasantly-worded letter requesting a contribution. I hope they win by a street next Saturday.

Horse play

Dry weather has seen a succession of boom days for cratier point-to-point competitors. Their play is to enter one horse for two or more races at a meeting, and then to see what the opposition is like. Dry weather means small fields, and what a poor man has been able to chalk up two victories on a single day with the same horse: a walk-over and a trouble-free gallop round with a solitary rival.

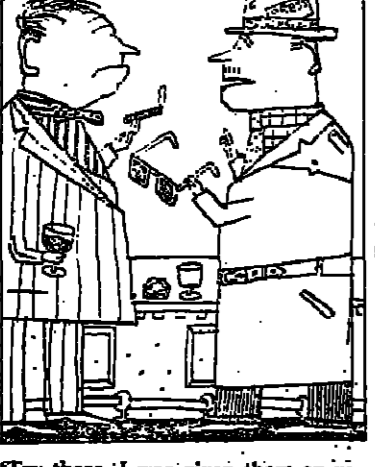
Fleet of foot

The Times football team has, I am proud to announce, made it to the Fleet Street League Cup Final for the second year running. The lads will fight for the honour and glory of us all at Crystal Palace's ground, Selhurst Park, on Friday. They were beaten last year in the final by The Guardian whose main strength lay (seriously) on the left wing. But The Guardian were beaten 2-1 by Our Boys in this year's semi-final, and now they meet the Daily Express in the final. Yes, the Express is strong on the right wing.

Simon Barnes

BARRY FANTONI

EL VINO



"Try these. I was given them on my fact-finding tour of Matabeland"

Sir Peter Hall pays a fiftieth anniversary tribute to the Sussex mansion that has restored a human dimension to opera

The Mozart debt we owe to Glyndebourne



Mozart: his work demands the intimate performer-audience rapport that Glyndebourne so happily provides. Right: Kiri Te Kanawa and Benjamin Luxon in the 1973 production of *Le Nozze di Figaro*

Theatres like certain authors more than others. It took years of constant re-fashioning to make the cinema-like art-deco auditorium of Stratford a happy place for Shakespeare. Bayreuth on the other hand, thanks to the composer's understanding of architecture, has always been the best house for Wagner. In this century, Glyndebourne has blessed Mozart. Why?

Glyndebourne has the right scale for Mozart. He wrote for small theatres, holding only six or seven hundred people. Since his death, opera houses have grown bigger, orchestras have played louder, and the dramatic pretensions of opera have become more grandiose and pompous. Unfortunately, the singers have remained the same size. So the true image of a modern opera production is a superstar singer in a bright follow-spot trying to produce more volume than the virtuoso orchestra. All this is in a huge auditorium before three or four thousand people. Not surprisingly it tends to be an unequal struggle. And even the precise orchestration of Mozart can be coarsened in our new large buildings.

Almost alone among the opera houses constructed in the twentieth century, Glyndebourne was built on the human scale - small enough for the performers' eyes to be seen, their thoughts to be recognized and their inflections understood. Mozart demands this subtlety. Only then can we understand the humanity and wit of his drama. Glyndebourne is small because it was from the first unashamedly elitist, putting quality before quantity.

Glyndebourne is also a community. The stars flourish because they become part of the ensemble, adding to it and being supported by it. Mozart demands ensemble work. His operas require trust and generosity of spirit among the performers. Only then does the delicate interplay of one character with another work - eyes meeting eyes, emotions affecting emotions. So out of Glyndebourne's sense of community has come a unique sense of ensemble.

I have worked at Glyndebourne regularly for 14 years. The conductors Bernard Haitink, Raymond Leppard and John Pritchard have joined me in many wonderful journeys. But the most amazing journeys - those which provide the greatest revelation and surprise - have been the three operas Mozart wrote with Da Ponte - *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni* and *Così fan tutte*. I have had the good fortune to stage all of them at Glyndebourne. What, apart from the impossibility of revealing their riches completely, has Glyndebourne taught me about them?

The nineteenth century discovered and developed naturalism in the theatre as a revolutionary force. For the first time, rooms were presented with four walls - though one was removed so that the audience could peep in. Doors and windows were no longer painted on backcloths; they were real, with catches and knobs. This theatre reached its climax with Ibsen and Chekhov: time was "real", acting tried to be natural behaviour and dialogue pretended to be real speech. The audience, like privileged voyeurs, watched the simulation of life. The vigorous public story-telling of the Greeks and of the Elizabethans, where a character in a play always knows that the audience is watching him and describes his predicament to them in long unreal "speeches", was no more.

This revolution was very embarrassing for the conventions of opera. Like the old theatre, opera had been based from its beginnings on the convention of public story-telling. In Monteverdi or in Cavalli or even in the *Opera seria* of the eighteenth century, a solo aria is always a direct address to the audience.

— This ancient narrative acting has a

history which takes us all the way back to Homer and to old tribal story-telling. It was of course at the centre of Shakespeare's drama. Hamlet did not come on stage to broad daylight before an audience of 3,000 people, many of them fidgeting as they stood, and quietly puzzle to himself about whether or not he should continue to be. He posed the problem for the entire audience and asked their opinion. "To be or not to be? What do you think?" So Shakespeare uses the soliloquy to hold and involve an audience's attention.

A solo aria works in exactly the same way in Mozart. The mask of public behaviour, of social convention, is taken off. And we see the true heart of the character. Don Ottavio's aria in Act I of *Don Giovanni*, "Dalla sua pace", was added, I am convinced, not only to please the tenor for the Vienna premiere, but also to give the audience an early and essential understanding of the true character of the man. Up to this point Don Ottavio has been strong, understanding, helpful - in a way, a surrogate father to the bereaved and neurotic Donna Anna. We may indeed suspect that he is nearly of the same generation as his friend the Commendatore - an entirely suitable match for the great man's daughter. Steady, firm and calm.

This aria, always providing that its strong emotions are shared with the audience, shows the inner man. He is not so careful after all. He has a passionate tenderness and an

The action of every aria is a revelation of self

active love for the wayward girl. He becomes, therefore, the positive representative of love in the opera - a strong moral character, well able to match the God-testing evil of Giovanni.

If Don Ottavio sings this aria to himself as a positive reflection of something he already knows, the effect may be romantic in a generalized sort of way. But the specific action of the aria, the amazement we should feel at seeing this man removed, at seeing the strong man underneath, is lost. And a crucial part of our understanding of the character is lost also.

Solo arias in Mozart are always concerned with the revelation of the character's true feeling, with the unashamed removal of the mask. The action of every aria is a revelation of self.

Since naturalism swept our theatre, opera as well as drama has become frightened of this honest exposure. Singers go to great lengths to ignore their audiences, and to pretend that their arias are private communings with themselves. The true drama of the aria is therefore betrayed.

The need for this public demonstration of the heart is even greater

when we come to the ensembles - those great and unique glories of Mozart's operas. Unfortunately, naturalism has damaged our appreciation of them also. Singers in ensembles either stand rooted to the spot, carefully blending together as if the drama were over and the concert had begun; or they desperately bend the text so that half sing the same line to each other in happy agreement - anything to avoid the direct address to the audience.

Glyndebourne as a place has made me understand that the whole of Mozart's drama is based on a performer's ability to speak directly to his audience. It is at that moment that he removes his mask. And Mozart's theatre is very much about the mask. This preoccupation with illusion and reality, with social lies and emotional truth, leads to the constant preoccupation of Da Ponte and Mozart with impersonation.

There is some evidence that Mozart's original singers enjoyed the vocal problem of disguising their voices so that they also sounded like the people they were representing. It was obviously a theatrical effect well liked by the audience and well done by the performer. It is disturbing as well as amusing. Nowadays it is hardly even attempted.

All this role playing is of course revolutionary. If a Count can become a servant, and a servant become a Count, rank itself is questioned. I believe that Mozart and Da Ponte were out to show that man with his clothes off him in the bedroom is much the same animal whether he be aristocrat or peasant. A man's clothes do not make the man - it is his heart that matters. The French Revolution is just over the horizon.

It is difficult for us to remember now how casually Mozart was regarded even 80 years ago. He was the decorator, the charming tinkling boy of the eighteenth century. Glyndebourne since the 1930s has done much for Mozart. *Idomeneo* has been discovered for the English; *Così fan tutte* has been revealed.

Glyndebourne has often made me think about the original conditions that Da Ponte and Mozart worked under. Their theatre was filled with lighted candles and there was almost as much light on the audience as on the performers. The communion between them must therefore have been complete - certainly better than we have in our days of electricity and huge darkened auditoriums.

In the literal naturalism of our electrically-lit theatres, we are always expected to make darkness, because, at the switch of a dimmer, we can make darkness. If Figaro tells us it is dark in a modern opera house, we expect all the lights to be very dim. But in this naturalistic gloom, it is impossible to follow the plot or the emotions because we cannot see.

The problem is enormous because darkness is a central obsession of Da

Ponte's. It is a time for mistaken identities, for sensualities, for revolution. Elvira needs darkness in Act II in *Don Giovanni* if she is to break our hearts. Act IV of *Figaro* is impossible unless we believe in the velvet darkness of that very sensual night. Glyndebourne at least allows us a degree of darkness which would be impractical in a larger house. We can still see.

What else can we learn from the beginnings of these masterpieces?

I suspect that Mozart would have been delighted by the virtuosity and size of our modern orchestras - just as he was delighted by the Mannheim orchestra. It is clear that the technical standards of instru-

An entire orchestra can be working for the singer

mental playing have improved beyond all recognition. But I wonder whether Mozart - and Da Ponte also - would have liked the large voices that we now need to ride over the huge volume of sound. Or the fashion among many modern singers to suppress their consonants in order to preserve the shape of the vocal line. I doubt therefore whether things have improved generally. Delicacy, precision, real *piano*, real *belcanto* and a relish for the words were the necessary objectives then - and they seem even harder to achieve now.

Mozart is a great dramatist because the atmosphere, the action, and the character of the drama are all expressed by the orchestra. If the performers listen to the orchestra, know the orchestration, they will know what their characters are doing. The score of *Figaro*, for instance, contains a continuous commentary on the failings, the weaknesses and the anguish of the characters. Horns bray and mock as Figaro contemplates cuckoldry; woodwinds chatter away in irony to deflate the count's pomposity; warm clarinets show the sensuality and directness of Susanna.

All this is a wonderful gift to the singer. The orchestra has only to be used. In the right state of physical relaxation (a lesson that the great Callas showed to operatic actors) the orchestra can seem to well out of the performer's body. He is filled with the richness of its sound, its contradictions, its chromatic surprises, and does not have to illustrate these matters by moving in time to the music or making huge gestures in a vain attempt to match a climax. In the right state of relaxation, an entire Mozartian orchestra can be working for the singer.

All this is easier to achieve at Glyndebourne. Many of us - artist and audiences - have reason to be grateful that in Glyndebourne, England has found a place for Mozart.

An extract from Glyndebourne, a celebration, to be published by Jonathan Cape on May 24 (£12.50).

Crossed Graham: the familiar brand of personal salvation plus a plan to save the world

Union would sit down to negotiate the abolition of all weapons of mass destruction. I'm not for unilateral disarmament.

Essentially, these issues apart, his mission what it was 20 years ago. "To speak simply about the gospel, to take a story from the Bible and try to apply it."

Dr Graham is rather conscious that he is an American, now, though he speaks glowingly of his "tremendous love" for England, which he calls his second homeland. He declined invitations to speak in London on the grounds that there were plenty of English evangelists who could do as well.

The secret of his success may be that very Americanism about which he is a bit apologetic, however. It is a cultural difference. When an American actress declares in tears, on receiving an Oscar, her deep love for her friends, her work, her audience and her country, there is no embarrassment, either side. Emotional openness is acceptable, even enjoyable, in that setting.

The English are different, and difficult. It is not easy for an Englishman, even a trained preacher, to talk openly and movingly of his love for Christ and Christ's love for him, as Billy Graham can do. Social taboos stand in the way; those who try it can sound false, or just embarrassing. So the English style of preaching is more cerebral, and emotional understatement is the order of the day. It may be closer to the national character, but it does not sway crowds, does not stir deep feelings, and really would not suit Billy Graham at all.

Clifford Longley

Woodrow Wyatt

When it really is watch this space

In my December 4-column for the *News of the World* I began by dealing with the NGA dispute with Mr Eddie Shah, of Warrington. I explained that the real issue was the NGA's desire to impose a closed shop on Mr Shah irrespective of whether his employees wanted it. Members of the NGA at the *News of the World* refused to print this so the start of my column appeared with a large white blank space.

That was not the first time that members of print unions had objected to something I wanted to say. In consultation with a father of a chapel I have actually altered sentences to diminish their anger. Frequently, I have intended to write about the behaviour of print unions but restrained myself for fear that either my piece would not be published or, if the management attempted to publish it, the whole edition of the newspaper would be stopped with severe financial loss.

Most editorial offices in Fleet Street have this problem increasingly. Sometimes it is resolved by allowing the printers to insert a dissenting statement; sometimes a really bold editor stands firm and loses his paper a lot of money. Until recently this effective system of censorship was usually applied only to matters affecting print unions. Now it is spreading to topics not directly related to print workers.

On Wednesday the *Daily Express* published on its front and centre pages a speech which Mr Scargill might have made, if in the *Daily Express's* view he were sufficiently objective and realistic about the partial miners' strike. I thought the "speech" with care. All the facts in it were correct.

The newspaper was immediately told by Mr Bill Keys, general secretary of Sogat '82, that Mr Scargill should be given a right of reply with precisely the same length and prominence as that which had appeared on Wednesday. If this was not granted the *Daily Express* would be stopped indefinitely. The *Glasgow Daily Record* was stopped on Wednesday by members of Sogat '82 because it would not obey their instructions as to the page on which their statement should be printed.

On BBC's *Today* programme on Thursday morning Mr Keys fumed away. Among other things, he said that newspapers should not be used for political propaganda, with the implication that he would be the judge and censor of any newspaper which disagreed with his outlook. This is the most serious threat to press freedom from a union so far. The communist *Morning Star* and the pro-Labour *Mirror* newspapers, would I assume, be allowed to continue political propaganda. Others are put on notice that political propaganda may bring their newspapers to a halt.

This is workers' control, it is not press freedom. It is for the management, responsible for the financial success of the paper, and

the editor to decide the editorial policy. Why should a print worker have any more say in a newspaper than a newsagent, or the newspaper boy who delivers it? The reader can judge the editorial policy and switch to another paper if he dislikes it.

Print workers have no more claim than any other members of the public to insist on a right of reply either for themselves or for those to whom they feel friendly. Whether a letter should be published about something they do not like should be entirely at the discretion of the editor in his journalistic capacity. He might well think that a long and boring reply to something that had annoyed print workers would be boring to the readers and damaging to the paper.

Print workers have the power of censorship because they are in closed shops. They will still be in closed shops if by November 1 this year they vote by 80 per cent of those concerned, or 85 per cent of all those voting, to maintain them.

Even the National Union of Journalists, to which I belong, sends instructions to its members on how to conduct themselves on such topics as racism. We are also instructed not to attack fellow members, though if the attack is libellous the victim can get redress in the courts. In many newspapers the NUJ has achieved a closed shop and hence a dangerous power of censorship.

Whatever may be said in favour of closed shops in other industries, and there is not much which can be said, they should certainly not be allowed in the newspaper industry. It is not merely that they make unprofitable and wasteful demands on newspapers which could be profitable. These demands cannot be resisted for fear of losing an edition or editions of the newspaper which have to be sold on the day of publication or not at all - unlike motor cars for which the date of delivery is not vital to an exact date.

Still worse there is the creeping censorship which will feed upon itself with each success it achieves and is made possible by the closed shop. The press will not be free if editors and managements wanting to write not just about printing matters have to think to themselves whether something of a general nature will offend some members of the print unions and whether therefore they had better not put it in. Censorship can operate as a deterrent against some things being submitted as well as stamping on them when they are presented to the printers.

The public are probably unaware that censorship of what they read in the newspapers has been advancing over the years. If the censorship of the press is not to become accepted as normal the Government must stir itself and abolish the closed shop in the newspaper industry.

Bryan Appleyard

Irish cream, with trimmings

"We did not", said Irish Prime Minister Dr Garret FitzGerald, "on chasing genius with birth certificates." He was referring to the ticklish problem of defining "Irishness". It has been troubling the selectors of the 13 "Top of the Irish" authors, whose books are to be promoted throughout Britain and Ireland from Monday. The Irish diaspora produces national identity crises all over the world. When literature and politics are also involved the problem becomes very fraught indeed.

But then the British Book Marketing Council could not hope to export its mania for promotional lists without some local oddities emerging. Sure enough, just as in Britain, the Irish media responded to the list with a sort of programmed outrage. Where were Edna O'Brien and Bernard MacLaverty? And sure enough the Irish Book Marketing Group rubbed its hands with glee at the prospect of selling another 250,000 books on the back of the controversy.

The presence of An Taoiseach himself suggests the first oddity. Mrs Thatcher has never done anything for the BBC in London. In addition, Aer Lingus and the Irish Tourist Board had been persuaded to fly over a party of London journalists, a gesture which has yet to be matched in Bloomsbury.

The point is, of course, that Ireland takes its literature seriously, associating it more closely with national politics, pride and identity than any other nation. So, from the compulsory composers of rural idylls on the list to Mannix Flynn, a fast-talking actor, comedian and playwright, the writers are all enveloped in a cocoon of significance. The irony was not lost on Flynn. Not only is he an ex-resident of Mountjoy Prison but he also says he is unfairly hounded by the Dublin police on a charge of drunkenness. With the Taoiseach and the Minister of Foreign Affairs he is, nevertheless, a national asset - a writer.

But as Flynn and a good many others know, Ireland is a country of split personalities. On the first day of the journalists' jaunt we were escorted round Trinity College and given sherry at the Provost's House. Swift and Beckett studied there and a studious kind of literariness hung in the air.

The next day the Irish publishers took over and escorted us pointedly to Kilmainham jail. There hundreds of Irishmen were hung, shot, tortured and imprisoned by the British over a period of almost two centuries. Literature was here too, this time in the names of the martyrs once reluctantly celebrated by Yeats.

Yet there was also the fact that the execution yard, the gallows (and soon the torture) chambers are all restored and open to the public. This was more like James Joyce: "History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." The next stop was the publishers' wars the Bazaar, the oldest pub in Dublin. Trinity could not have seemed further away.

As businessmen, the publishers feel besieged and understandably close to "Irishness" with all its bloodshed and astonishing literacy. The British publishers control 80 per cent of the Irish book trade and a series of small presses cling on to the remaining 20 per cent. For the best writers, unless they feel patriotically committed, a London publisher is the obvious ambition. So the promotion is inevitably seen as just another way of pushing British-produced books.

Nevertheless the companies revel in their small, often subversive, role. Brandon Books Publishers are having a whale of a time with their book *British Intelligence and Covert Action*, which has prompted the preparation of new legislation in Whitehall to prevent further revelations about the identity of MI6 agents. Meanwhile the book of the hour in Ireland is *The Secret* by Paddy Harte, a less than flattering portrait of opposition leader Charles Haughey. Easons, the Irish equivalent of W. H. Smith, refused to stock it because of legal quidnuncs. But, without their help, it sold 45,000. There was some very laughter at the opening speech of the author, the Minister of Education, Mr. Eason. He attacked the government's censorship laws which, by common consent, hardly affect anybody in the trade.

Such ironies abound in a small country which, it is claimed, has a population which reads more than any other in the English-speaking world. But the central irony remains the problem of "promoting" Ireland on the basis of a literature which stares obsessively at its own anguished divisions. The very last stop on the journalists' jaunt was a pause on the way back to the airport outside the main branch of Easons where Mr Clarke proudly pointed out his window displays and huge in-store banners. "We were also given Easons' publicity material, which showed Ireland divided down the middle as a means of examining population distribution. Easons' banner was thick and black, and the border blue and dotted."

Another nice irony, pointing out the "Top of the Irish" last week was the report of the New Ireland Forum on the future of Ulster.



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LAW OF THE HEAVY MOB

How long must we tolerate what should be intolerable in a country which has always prided itself on being law-abiding? How long should the nation be expected to accept passively the undeniable criminal intimidation of miners wishing to work, who can only pass the picket lines under the protection of a massive police presence, and of men and their families who have increasingly come under physical threat as well as psychological pressure in their own homes?

The direct effect of intimidation is, moreover, only part of the problem. There is also the cost of the huge police deployment to protect the miners wishing to work, which has been unofficially computed at about £25 million, a figure which, though it cannot be officially confirmed by the Home Office, is clearly accepted as pretty accurate. Yesterday, the Home Secretary announced government aid for those police authorities which have incurred substantial extra costs as a result of policing the picket lines and the coalfield areas. But the cost of holding back this lamentable threat to public order is not only to be measured in cash terms.

Account has also to be taken of the interests of other parts of the country which have their police forces depleted as a result of drafting men to defend the Nottinghamshire miners. It may be true that there is no evidence so far of rising crime elsewhere on account of underpolicing. It may also be fairly argued that a surplus of police manpower exists in the country as a whole (for day-to-day purposes) precisely to make possible this kind of deployment in an emergency. But that still leaves justifiable anxiety at the prospect of this deployment being maintained for any length of time. What would be the result if some

wholly unforeseeable event led to a substantial call on the police while so many were occupied on the picket lines?

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, has of course said that he backs the police who seem now to be increasingly willing to prosecute in cases of palpable violence. But what does backing the police mean in practice? The Government is locked into a vicious circle which arises, fundamentally, from the fact that we have for so long tolerated heavy picketing of a kind which is, by its very size and nature, intimidating, however much that is denied. In many other past instances picketing has been tolerated even when it was clear that, without the presence of police, there would have been no chance of workers wishing to pass the picket lines being able to do so. Because they could, with police support, pass the lines it has been convenient to assume that there was no intimidation.

The fact that police protection could prevent intimidation from succeeding was allowed to give colour to the fiction that the pickets were adhering to their right to persuade peacefully. By a kind of historical prescriptive right, heavy picketing has been tolerated far in excess of the six people suggested under the code of conduct which accompanied the Industrial Relations Acts of 1980 and 1982.

Of course, the suggestion under that code is not law, and the code itself allows the police to decide what is an appropriate number, beyond six, which is acceptable before the law is in danger of being breached. That is no easy decision for the police to make, and it might be no easier if a precise limit to the number of pickets were enshrined in the law. If the limit were six pickets (say) should the police arrest the other four if there were ten? How small a number is too few to

restrain in this manner without damaging police relations with the public? How, if the number rises to hundreds, is arrest feasible?

Such are the questions asked in Whitehall when these problems are confronted and nobody should suppose that the answers are easy. Successful government always depends primarily on general respect for the law, with police sanctions only having to be exerted against the minority who do not respect it. Yet the fact remains that Mr Scargill, by his bullying tactics and disrespect for the law, has brought into question the old pragmatic assumption that so long as no open violence erupted, and the police could keep a clear way through the picket lines, picketing was "peaceful".

It is obviously right that the police should begin to act more decisively against this kind of criminality. It is not safe to assume that, in the kind of game Mr Scargill plays, the softly-softly approach softens bullying hearts.

But this apart, if what the current law on picketing makes possible is the kind of thing that is happening in Nottinghamshire, it would be right to look at it coolly as a candidate for reform. The picketing miners are breaking not only the most recent code of conduct but their own standards.

In 1972, the then Secretary of the National Miners' Union, Mr Lawrence Daly, issued instructions to pickets. "All picketing must be peaceful" and for the purpose of obtaining or communicating information. "It should be emphasized that picketing must not take place at the home of a person being picketed." Mr Scargill's pickets breach the best standards of his predecessors and the nation is entitled to expect the Government to consider seriously what is to be done about it.

COMMON ROOM FREEHOLD

The contraction that the Government imposed on the university system in 1981 met an obstacle to its smooth implementation in the tenure commonly enjoyed by academic staff. (Tenure at its strongest is a contractual entitlement to remain in post until the age of retirement, which may be lost, broadly speaking, only by scandalous conduct or gross incompetence.) The obstacle was not insuperable. The contraction has taken place and the number of dons has been reduced, in reasonably good order, but at the cost to the Treasury of redundancy terms that were a good deal more expensive than they would have been without tenure, which had to be bought out so to speak.

The Secretary of State, who is brooding on another period of contraction towards the end of the decade, the case for which is based on questionable assumptions, would like to see tenure in its present form cleared out of the way in the interests of economy and administrative flexibility. He has written to the vice-chancellors announcing his readiness to introduce legislation for the amendment of university charters so that redundancy and financial exigency shall be added to misconduct and incompetence as reasons for deprivation.

Beneficed clergy of the Church of England have tenure, the so-called parson's freehold. But the Pastoral Measure of 1968 introduced a redundancy procedure for similar reasons and with similar effect to those of Sir Keith Joseph's proposal. Dons are left with a quite exceptional

degree of job security. It is easy to regard the tenacity with which they cling to it as commanding no more respect than any other example of trade union obscurantism or professional vested interest - dockers' attachment to the dock labour scheme, or barristers' to the sole right to appear in the higher courts. That is a large part of the question of academic tenure, but it does not altogether dispose of it.

Irremovability, except for defined misconduct or failure, serves several purposes beneficial to an academic institution. It affords protection for unorthodox or unpopular views. They do not at the present time attract administrative persecution in the academic world, but you never know. Without tenure people of high ability might be less willing to commit themselves to a career of scholarship and teaching in the many fields of knowledge that are of little interest to the marketplace. A redundant papyrologist of forty-nine is unlikely to cut much of a figure at the job centre.

Tenure also defines a teacher/scholar/researcher's relationship to his university as being something more than employment or service. It gives expression also to the autonomy of scholarship, to his obligation to pursue the truth where it leads him, or so it should be understood. It enhances the responsibility he carries in respect of his university. It is thus an element in the academic culture which distinguishes a university from other corporations.

These not very Raynerish

considerations are at present out of fashion in Whitehall, but they deserve to be weighed against the financial and administrative drag that the tenure system creates at a time of financial stringency.

In speaking of legislation Sir Keith disclaims any intention of interfering with existing contracts. That proper limitation reduces to very little the contribution his change could make to the ease of any contraction later in this decade, when the size of the undergraduate age group temporarily falls away. In return for that small convenience he would bring on himself a large conflict with the academic profession; and bring on the Government more of the sort of criticism that its treatment of local government attracts: bureaucratic centralism at the expense of the qualified autonomy of important public institutions.

Sir Keith's notice of legislation is still conditional. If the universities do what he wants off their own bat he will not interfere. He is still in dialogue with the vice-chancellors. He would be wise if in the course of that dialogue he would widen the specification of what he wants. The universities have already become more wary in granting tenure. If they will provide him with evidence that they are moving to a practice of granting tenure later and more sparingly, and making more use of fixed-term appointments, he should be satisfied to let them sort out for themselves the remaining difficulties posed by the system of tenure in a period of retrenchment.

LONELY, DANGEROUS AND HUNGRY PATH

It seems strange that the leaders of a superpower should be so afraid of an elderly invalid couple that despite world-wide opprobrium they are determined to put at risk the lives of Dr Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Elena Bonner. What is this perceived threat to the Soviet regime? Can it really outweigh both the demands of human decency and all rational arguments about the damage such harsh treatment does to the desired image of the USSR - promoted at considerable expense - as the cradle of the welfare state and the shining beacon for the future of mankind?

The hunger strike which Dr Sakharov began ten days ago is an extremely dangerous form of protest for a man approaching his 63rd birthday, especially considering his long history of heart trouble and his operation last month for blood clots in his leg. He was driven to such a desperate measure because the authorities refused Mrs Bonner permission to go abroad for urgent heart treatment. His fast

in 1981 succeeded in winning an exit visa for the Sakharovs' daughter-in-law, but in the present state of East-West hostility, there are fears that, rather than relent, the regime will resort to brutal force-feeding, which has proved fatal in treating other dissidents.

It is Andrei Sakharov's triumphant refusal to compromise in any way his moral stand which is the greatest threat to the Soviet system, based as it is on encouraging the population's passive acceptance of governmental iniquities. A regime that cannot trust its citizens not to defect when they go abroad, cannot allow independent opinion or free speech at home.

The confidence of the rulers is shaken when a man like Dr Sakharov, who enjoyed all the privileges of the Soviet elite, puts his conscience before his material well-being to speak out against injustice in the USSR and denounce expansionist foreign policies. If a scientist who helped produce their nuclear arsenal protests openly at the actions of the Soviet leaders,

they must be concerned that many other high-ranking members of the establishment are secretly opposed to the system, trying to decide if they should obey the demands of moral duty and step out like him on the lonely and dangerous path of dissent. The Politburo appears compelled to ensure that those who are inspired by Sakharov remain afraid to emulate him.

The claim that he cannot go abroad because he is in possession of state secrets makes no sense after almost two decades of dissidence. Dr Sakharov and his wife have already suffered so much that all but the most courageous opponents of the regime's excesses will be deterred from following his example. If the Soviet leaders are reluctant to allow the Sakharovs to leave lest they in some way contribute to President Reagan's re-election campaign, they should realise that a martyr to oppression would produce even more support for a strong line on Moscow. They should recognize that their own best interests coincide with the hopes of decent people everywhere, and let the Sakharovs go.

Political activity by charities

From the Director of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations
Sir, Roger Scruton's article (May 8) raises again the vexed question of "political activity" by charities. The Chairman of NCVO, Mr Peter Jay, pointed out in a letter to you of April 15 last year that there remains lamentable confusion as to what is, and what is not, "political" activity.

Case law suggests that some aims are classified as political whereas others are not, even though both seek to influence public policy, legislation etc. and this breeds suspicion that the judgment between them is "political", with a bias against those who would change rather than conserve the status quo. This confusion would be removed if a simpler, more objective test were adopted, namely that politics is essentially about the retention and transference of government power and that, in a democratic society, political activity consists only of activities whose aims include, overtly or covertly, the influencing of the electoral process in favour of (or against) any person or party.

Since last April NCVO has consulted widely among its member organisations and others about this and other changes in the law governing charities. Our consultation shows clearly that there is very widespread support for such an objective definition as to what constitutes "political" activity.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director,
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
May 8.

Balance of bat and ball

From Mr A. M. Steward
Sir, Your correspondence upon change in the rules of cricket is valid. However, a line down the centre of the pitch might soon become an aiming point and increase rather than diminish the bumper rate.

The "new" no-ball rule effectively shortened the pitch by one yard, making the fast bowler a yard quicker overnight. It also became more difficult not to bowl bouncers, as the shorter the pitch the greater the bounce.

The answer to the problem of repetitious bouncers is to revert to the "old" no-ball rule; or, as suggested by your correspondent (April 28), to effectively lengthen the pitch by a yard by bowling from behind the bowling crease. The "no ball" should be further called if it rose above, say, the batsman's head, or shoulder height. Fielders' faceshields might be discouraged (but not perhaps hard hats).

Many present-day fast bowlers (e.g. Willis) rarely take wickets by hitting stumps and seem incapable of so doing. Recent fast bowling has exceeded boundaries in its intent and effect, without its future.

The rules which were soon changed against Laker contributed to the detriment of slower bowling.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. STEWARD,
36 Braeside,
Beckenham,
Kent.

Olympic spirit

From Miss Bridget Boland
Sir, My father, J. P. Boland, won two events in the 1896 Olympic Games. He was in Greece because his tutor at Oxford had given him an introduction to the archaeologist, Schliemann, and in Athens he chanced to meet an Austrian fellow undergraduate who was entered for the tennis in the games and who persuaded him to take the place of his doubles partner, who had fallen ill.

When they won and an official was putting up the Austrian flag and the Union Jack, my father said to him with a grin: "Actually, I'm Irish."

The apologetic official looked anxiously at his array of flags and my father said: "It's a gold harp on a green ground, we hope, but that one will do to be going on with."

When he went on to win the singles the official was even more apologetic, but he soothed him, saying: "It's a difficult flag to make in a hurry and I'm afraid I'm now entering for putting the weight as well, so why not make one just saying J.P.B."

Unfortunately he lost, or he might have started a trend more in keeping with the intentions of the originator of the modern games.

Yours truly,
BRIDGET BOLAND,
Boland,
Hewshott Lane,
Liphook,
Hampshire.
May 9.

Leaving early

From Mr Alan Smallbone
Sir, You are to be congratulated on printing in today's Special Report (May 3) an article which actually tells the truth about early leavers (that well-known euphemism for those made redundant).

"Rising inflation and rising interest rates," writes Mr Puttergill, "mean that the cost of deferred benefits fell sharply." So pension funds have been making "windfall profits" - Mr Puttergill's term - out of the devastation of ex-employees' pensions.

Clearly the pensions industry is a branch of insurance to which the standard tenets of utmost good faith do not apply.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.
ALAN SMALLBONE,
30 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.
May 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protecting newspapers from takeovers

From Mr David Astor

Sir, The recent tragicomic events at *The Observer* - the dispute at the *Daily Express* is about a similar but different issue - have provoked conflicting views on the control of newspapers. One was that nothing should interfere with the rights of the proprietor.

Private ownership has certainly produced the most independent newspapers. *The Washington Post* did what no state-licensed newspaper could ever do, bring down a government. But even American newspapers are publicly controlled; for instance, by the anti-trust Act. Our Monopolies Commission is not a piece of socialism, but an attempt to copy that American device to preserve competition.

Newspapers, however, fit into this procedure awkwardly. The possibility of a newspaper monopoly is said to exist when a newspaper publisher wishes to acquire another paper which would then put him in control of a sale of over 500,000 copies. The publisher may be called on to obtain the commission's approval in those circumstances - but only then - the commission is clearly empowered also to consider whether this acquisition is in the "national interest".

Had Mr Tiny Rowland not controlled newspapers in Glasgow he would not have had to justify his acquisition of *The Observer*. In that case the commission would not have pronounced, as they actually did, that his ownership of that paper would be against the national interest - unless he accepted the novel safeguard of "independent directors".

These independent directors have recently shown their value as protectors of the editor's position. As has often been predicted, Mr Rowland's commercial interests and the paper's freedom to report came into conflict.

However, should there be another proprietor v editor conflict at *The Observer*, and if this time it was about money, the independent directors would, of course, have no power to tell Mr Rowland how much money he should lose.

Mr Rowland could then, presumably, remove the editor. In that case the safeguards that the Monopolies Commission said were essential in the newspaper interest would have been circumvented.

Consider a different possibility. Supposing President Gaddafi wanted to buy *The Observer*. He could not be questioned by the commission on grounds of monopoly, since he does not already own newspapers here; he, therefore, could not be questioned by the commission in terms of the national interest - unless the Fair Trading Act means something different from what it seems to mean.

This possibility is not pure fantasy, since Colonel Gaddafi's embassy once made a formal and very polite offer to acquire *The Observer*.

If changes in newspaper ownership can be a matter of public interest, whether monopoly is

involved or not, how could the "national interest" be defined? Obviously, not simply in commercial terms.

A newspaper has a special value to its readers to the extent that it reflects and serves their political, social and cultural interests. To allow a newspaper catering to political sector X of our community to be taken over by a proprietor who is a militant member of political sector Y is, plainly, not in the interests of its readers.

This is also true in ethical terms; a buccaneer is not a suitable proprietor of a paper trusted for its reliability.

But how could the Monopolies Commission judge political and ethical questions of this sort? Its members could include representatives of the readership of the paper in question. They might be respected public figures drawn from the sector of the nation which regards that particular paper as "theirs".

Two formal changes seem necessary. First, any change by sale of any newspaper, whether monopoly arises or not, should be examined by the commission in terms of its readers' broad interests.

Second, the commission should be asked always to inquire whether there are other bidders capable of paying a fair price, but with greater political and ethical suitability.

Had this latter practice been in operation it is hard to believe that Mr Rowland would ever have acquired *The Observer*, since there was an alternative bid by much more suitable buyers in these terms. They were never heard.

These matters seem to deserve greater public discussion. Mr Rowland, for instance, is quite likely to wish, once again, to sell "his" newspaper to whoever he wishes. If we cannot devise methods to prevent readers having "their" newspaper taken over by a buyer with totally different ideas from theirs, when there are more suitable alternative buyers, will we not be making a case for the far more stringent kind of intervention into the control of newspapers that Mr Benn has advocated?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ASTOR,
9 Cavendish Avenue, NW8.
May 10.

The biters bit

From Dr J. D. Clark
Sir, For so eminent a journalist, Ronald Butt is capable of writing astonishing rot. For example, in *The Times* of May 3, 1984:

"Only in nationalised industries, of course, is there any practical possibility of striking to maintain jobs which have lost their economic justification and are driving an enterprise towards bankruptcy."

A counter-example that disproves this is the very newspaper in which it was printed. Its print unions do strike to maintain their uneconomic existence.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN D. CLARK,
10 Leete Place,
Royston, Hertfordshire.

New Ireland Forum

From Mr Robert A. Fullerton

Sir, Mr Peter Jay's riposte (May 4) to your judicious leader on the New Ireland Forum (May 3) deserves further consideration as it reflects a certain liberal consensus on Northern Ireland.

Whether or not our Government espouses a view on the desirability of constitutional change is entirely irrelevant given, first, the democratic necessity of consent and, secondly, the fact that consent is not forthcoming. Truism, regrettably, have to be spelled out in an area where so many are determined to ignore them.

Mr Jay, while paying lip service to the democratic niceties, in effect attempts to bypass them by referring to *inter alia*, Northern Ireland's insignificance in the United Kingdom as a whole, the general truculence of the Unionist population and, perhaps most important, the Government's need to justify itself at the bar of world opinion.

Hotspur fans roaming the streets in Belgium with knives and hammers.

Since these countries are courteous enough to let us in, even with passports, it might save us a lot of shame if we in turn withdrew passports from those of us who disgrace our country when we are abroad. I would, moreover, suggest that it be returned only against a bond - a sort of suspended sentence - which would be forfeited if there were a second offence.

Yours, blimphishly,
ROBERT NORTON,
The Old Rectory,
Monks Risborough,
Buckinghamshire.
May 9.

Shadows over Entente

From Mr Robert Norton

Sir, The Chairman of the Franco-British Society (May 9) hopes that we will not take retaliatory action against the French intention of banning entry into France to any British citizen without a passport. Last year I took a night train from Paris. I was unable to get a seat because my compatriots were sleeping two to a compartment, drunk. In many cases they had been sick as well.

The French guard did his best to try to get one or two to move, and finally shrugged his shoulders and said, "They're your countrymen".

Today I hear of Tottenham

"the historical Jewish State on a national and totalitarian basis and bound by a treaty with the German Reich". The existence of the "document" from which text this "offer" is extracted is based on hearsay. *The Journal of Palestine Studies* makes the allegation in an article by Klaus Polkehn, an East German. Brenner's "source" is a thesis by an Israeli, David Yisraeli.

Neither of them states where the original anonymous (unsigned) document may be inspected and tested by historians and forensic experts (as the "Hitler Diaries" were available for examination).

To give credibility to the slur that to save European Jewry "was secondary to the Zionist leaders", Brenner in his book deleted from the "document" the paragraph stating "the liberation of the Jewish people once and for all is the objective".

Yours sincerely,
DANIEL GRUENBERG,
139 High Street,
Hampton Hill,
Middlesex.
May 4.

Lonely joggers out of touch

From Mr William J. Reilly

Sir, My wife and I today concluded several days of holiday in London, during which we balanced our nocturnal over-indulgence with spirited jogs around the perimeter of Hyde Park. The reason for my letter is to note a remarkable difference in behaviour we observed therewith, when compared to our native San Francisco.

It is the habit of joggers in San Francisco to run head up, make eye contact when another jogger approaches, and to utter some word, grunt, or sign of recognition in passing. This is particularly prevalent at those hours or places where such encounters are rare, but also in force jogging along the Embarcadero at noon time, when it requires continuous attention.

By comparison, the joggers we encountered in Hyde Park were head down, singularly purposeful and apparently (to their loss) mindless of the great beauty through which they tramped. Some few returned my salute but, in general, I felt as if I had cruded upon a club sworn to the loneliness of the long-distance runner.

In addition to the spirit of camaraderie and good will which the custom of salutation provides, I also note a strong physiological benefit to wit, when one knows one is being watched by another runner, the breathing becomes more regular, the pace quickens, and the form improves markedly. It takes me 20 to 30 yards beyond to realize that if I don't slow down a bit I'll kill myself for the vanity!

We had a fine visit to your city and I hope your readers will accept this modest complaint in the beneficial spirit in which it is given.

It also occurs to me that those downtowned songs which caused me such concern could also be tourists from debilitating places such as Chicago and New York, in which case, my apologies.

W. J. REILLY,
Senior Vice-President,
Crockier National Bank,
Corporate Banking Division
One Montgomery Street,
West Tower,
San Francisco,
California.
May 7.

Lessons of May 3 vote

From Mr Richard Holme

Sir, Before the new Labour majority on Liverpool Council and the Conservative Government set themselves on a new collision course, they might both reflect on the real lessons of the May 3 vote in that city.

For Labour, with a reduced percentage of the vote - 46.2 per cent compared with 47.2 per cent in 1983 - it means that they should be extremely reticent in claiming a mandate for their proposed illegal rate, despite the fact that the electoral system awarded them 21 seats out of 34, thus giving them an overall majority on the council of 58 seats out of 99.

For the Government there is a different lesson. Surely it is time to think of introducing proportional representation as the best way of ensuring that elected local government authorities stay in touch with the majority opinion in their areas?

Yours etc,
RICHARD HOLME, Director,
Campaign for Fair Votes,
20 Chandos Place, WC2.
May 4.

A female 'Christ'

From Mr I. C. Merrylyes

Sir, In your columns (May 4) a Mr P. L. Crill condemns as "blasphemous" a sculpture of the female Christ by Edwina Sandys.

The offended Christians in his letter also told J. S. Bach that his St John Passion was too dramatic for church performance.

The symbols of Christianity exist to be interpreted by artist and theologian alike, upon which premise much of our culture has been founded.

To endow these symbols with a higher authority is to invite sterility it is also to commit idolatry. Who is the real blasphemer?

Yours faithfully,
IAN MERRYLYES,
Loveday's Garden,
St Mary Street,
Gloucestershire.

Umbrella-haters

From Dr Aileen Ribeiro

Sir, Philip Norman (feature, May 5) is absolutely right about the inability of Americans to come to grips with the umbrella. Students of the psychology of dress might ponder on their fondness for the cheap collapsible version compared to, say, the sturdy traditional English type.

Yet the English have not always had a reputation as umbrella-lovers. A visitor from Europe in the 1760s found Londoners to be intolerant of "our umbrellas of taffeta or waxed silk", with the result that there were "swarms" of shops "scouring, repairing and new furnishing" clothes ruined by coal smoke.

Although umbrellas were introduced into England in the mid-eighteenth century, they were regarded as effete and their use detrimental to the livelihood of hackney coachmen.

When John Macdonald brought a silk umbrella from Spain to London in 1778, people shouted, "Frenchman, why don't you get a coach?" and the radical tailor and pioneer of trade unions, Francis Place, remembered the coachmen "lashing the people's umbrellas with their whips as they drove away".

Yours faithfully,
AILEEN RIBEIRO,
Courtauld Institute of Art,
History of Dress Department,
20 Portman Square, W1.
May 8.

10,11
Travel: Face to face
with the locals in
the South China Sea;
cutting the cost of
cruises for newcomers

12,13
Travel: Bath for babes;
holiday on Herm; In the
Garden: Bonsai; Values:
Outdoor furniture;
Eating out and Drink

THE TIMES Saturday

14,15
Family Life visits
the Hell Fire Club;
Bridge and Chess;
Review: Paperbacks of
the month; Galleries

17,18
The Week: Critical
guide to Television,
Radio, Film, Theatre,
Music and Dance,
Sport and Auctions

12-18 MAY 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

If money was no object how would you choose to spend your perfect day? In the first of an occasional series, our volunteer dreams of waking in a four-poster bed as master of a stately home. A few friends are to join him for *sake* beneath a greenwood tree before being wafted away to the delights of dinner at the Villa Maser...

My Perfect Day

Part 1: Sir Roy Strong

It is true to say that one is only aware of a perfect day in retrospect. As the light fades and there is a faint nip in the air and the dinner seems particularly good, the mind reaches back over the day and, like God in chapter one of Genesis, concludes "It was good". It is particularly good if the experience is a shared one, although this is not a totally necessary ingredient.

Nearly everyone, if pressed, would admit that their most perfect days are not in the least exotic but positively humdrum. They are composed at their best of a combination of everything one loves most set into a perfect accord.

In my case it would stretch from being awakened by the loving purr and lick of a tortoiseshell cat, to a stroll around the garden with my wife and the shared contentment of realizing that this or that really is more beautiful than last season. It would embrace a happy period in one's writing room when the words would flow, reclining in the bath listening to the radio and a session in the kitchen that produced memorable results.

In other words tranquility of a kind found in a drawing of a *biedermeier* interior. For true happiness in life perfect days should be a combination of the attainable within the parameters of one's own existence.

But there is another form of perfect day - strange, imaginary, even fantastic, in which one maps into the hours from sunshine to shade a sequence of precious, memorable and pleasurable experiences.

Such an exercise almost defies decision. It would

demand far more than the requirements of he who defined heaven as eating foie gras to the sound of trumpets. It would have to embrace a choice between so many contraries: the music of Mozart and musical comedy; the first flowers of spring and a bottle of Pouilly Blanc Fumé; the voluptuous decadence of Strauss's *Rosenkavalier* and the pious words of the Book of Common Prayer; the cool magic of Piero della Francesca's "Madonna del Parto" and the taste of raw herring as it arrived on the quayside at Scheveningen. The list would be formidable and impractical but if practicality of a kind is to govern these twenty-four hours they would run something like this...

The day would have to begin in a four-poster bed. In fact I'd have to start in England somewhere in a great house. I would have arrived in the dark because one of life's pleasures is to wake up in a strange room and find a completely new world revealed through its windows.

To wake and find myself master of Hardwick Hall or Knole would suit me admirably as a start to the day. Both are very well off for sumptuous beds, especially the latter, and I'd be happy in any of them, all standing in rooms with evocative names: the Spangle Bedroom, the King's Bedroom and the Venetian Ambassador's Bedroom.

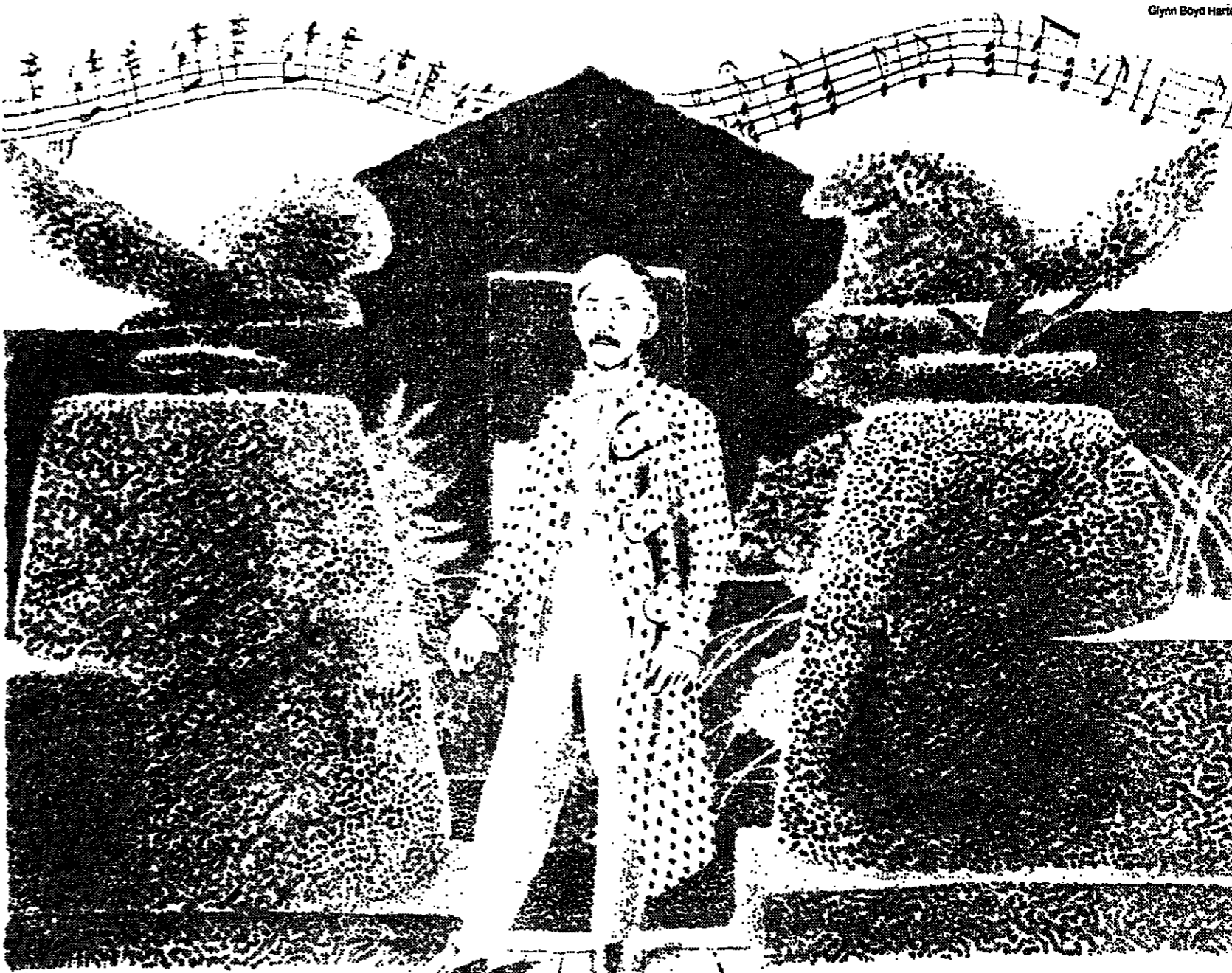
Let me decide definitely in favour of Knole, for although I find Virginia Woolf and the "Bloomburys" tiresome, her description of that house in *Orlando* is a distillation of the allure of such a mysterious, rambling, old mansion, thick with dust and heady with the emotions

of centuries. To awaken there would be quite something - to suddenly feel attentive fingers heave back the silver and gold curtains, to peer out of the window and glimpse courtyard and parkland and grazing deer.

It would definitely have to be autumn, one of these golden, slightly hazy mornings with light piercing cloud and mist. Late September ideally, when the leaves would just be beginning to change to red and gold; promises of warmth at noon but also a certain hint of sadness and decay at the season's end.

There is nothing more irritating about staying in a great house than having to go down to breakfast. No, I would leap from bed and put on the garment I covet most in the Victoria and Albert Museum's dress collection: Mr Coutts's dressing gown, a regency confection of mock ermine in wool.

I don't know whether Knole has marvellous bathrooms, but for a perfect day perfect plumbing is essential. And in any case the bath is one of the best places in which to look at pictures. My own is filled with nondescript prints but to be really perfect the Mauritshuis gallery in the Hague, would have lent Vermeer's "View of Delft". It would be perfection to me but no doubt sacrilege to others to lie back in a scented tub contemplating the picture I'd rescue first in the world. What pleasure to have that huge sky to oneself with its extraordinary patches of light falling on town and water, utter peace and calm with those six figures standing on the quayside.



After this, a continental breakfast certainly, in terms of the best coffee and bread, although preserves by the Women's Institute I would regard as a *sine qua non*.

Hopefully, Mr Tommy Nutter would have delivered something appropriate to wear, for clothes add spice to life. I would be quite happy wandering alone through the rooms and galleries of that enormous house, pausing at faces and china; sniffing old pot pourri; lifting swags of faded velvet; sitting on the Jacobean chairs; sensing in short everything that is England. Perhaps the sound of Elgar's Symphony No. 1 in A flat would echo through the walls and one would tiptoe into the chapel to hear another music, that of the Authorized Version read in a place where John Donne preached and the formidable Lady Anne Clifford "blubbered with weeping".

But away, melancholy, for this perfect day is drifting towards the valedictory. The garden at Knole is not much good and I would have to get in a garden somehow, either Hidcote or Cranborne Manor by helicopter, whose gardens depend on rooms and topiary of box and yew, statuary and pergolas, and herbaceous borders laden until the blooms cascade on to the connecting paths.

Which brings me to lunch. Years ago in a post-war film I remember a wife asking her husband "Proper lunch or proper dinner?" Lunch is a pretty expendable meal except in the vanished form of the luncheon party, but then that would eliminate three hours from my perfect day. I'd compromise with a picnic beneath the greenwood tree: Japanese food and *sake* with Jean Muir, David Hockney and Zandra Rhodes. It's about time this perfect day began to be populated and they would make up an hilarious and observant party, stylish, perspicacious, unassuming yet serious, reticent yet eccentric and outgoing.

My Knole mood of grandiose melancholy would be sent up on sight and the day would gain wit and momentum, ingredients essential to its coming hours, for we should all be gathered up in a happy haze and wafted by the most luxurious means possible to Italy. We would avoid all those things that make air travel pure hell: tickets, luggage, checking-in, passports, even the duty free.

I confess freely to the Englishman's obsession with Italy which set in from the moment that I first cast an eye on the Lombard plain in 1955. It would have to be part of a perfect day somehow but how?

Domesticity is a great thing and I would round

everything off with the perfect Italian complement to Knole. Palladio's Villa Maser. It would have to be evacuated and given over to us in every sense and the weather would need to be warm and serene, for here would be staged the one most perfect meal of the day at a round table placed at the crossing of its elegant galleries. Candles everywhere would softly light Veronese's fantasy world as he opens walls and ceiling out into landscape and up into a pagan heaven. The table would be covered with damask and lace trailing to the floor; everything would

be white with only flecks of gold and silver and the food would be served on flower-sprigged porcelain.

A little Mozart would be in order here, I feel, to match in delicacy the food: caviar, smoked salmon, lobster, fish from the lakes - a marine banquet with the best champagne. And everyone would dress up marvellously for the sheer fun of it, although I still remember David Hockney's remark to me more than a decade ago when I descended for dinner looking like an *incroyable*: "Have you done your act yet?"

And why this place? In one building, a home in the

country, it epitomizes in wood, stone, brick, and paint the civilized values of the Renaissance, that golden age of European man, at its most optimistic. Man the microcosm is the measure of its proportions and here was a house conceived not only for happiness but work and philosophical contemplation. Its decoration is at once light-hearted and deeply profound. The *trompe l'oeil* doors are swung open to reveal a hunter returning with his dogs, a little girl peeping in and a page hastening to answer a call. The frescoes celebrate the beauty of

landscape and the gift to man of wine and love. But at its heart stand grave ladies, making silent music with their instruments. Near to them pikes, halberds and lances lean against painted Corinthian columns.

From our dinner table we would see war vanquished by the arts of peace in a setting that evokes all that Western civilization at its very best has achieved and stands for. One could not ask for more: good company, delectable food, music, laughter and happiness within one of the supreme environments created by the hands of man.

The price of perfection

To have fantasies is one thing; to pay for them can be quite another. To assess the economic feasibility to Sir Roy Strong's Perfect Day, we tried to cost some of the main ingredients. Not all the prices must be taken literally; some of them are no more than informed guesses. But our findings do all lead to one, rather sad, conclusion: that it is impossible to have perfection of the cheap.

● Take Sir Roy's favourite painting, the Vermeer "View of Delft". Should it ever come on the market, art experts reckon it could fetch at least £10m. Even if the Mauritshuis gallery was prepared to lend it to Sir Roy, the insurance alone could come to £50,000.

● For the helicopter trip from Knole to Hidcote (or Cranborne Manor), the firm of Alan Mann Helicopters (based at Fairoaks Airport, Chobham, Surrey) quotes £250 an hour for the hire of a four-seater, to which must be added VAT and landing fees. A helicopter taking seven passengers would cost £2600 an hour, which per head is not much more expensive; and it would do the journey 50 per cent faster.



● The National Trust says it would be happy to arrange a four-poster bed for Sir Roy at Knole (pictured above); but to become master of the house, which is near Sevenoaks and dates from 1486, he would have to be one of the wealthiest men in the land with riches comparable to those of Cardinal Wolsey or a great Indian prince. The trust is

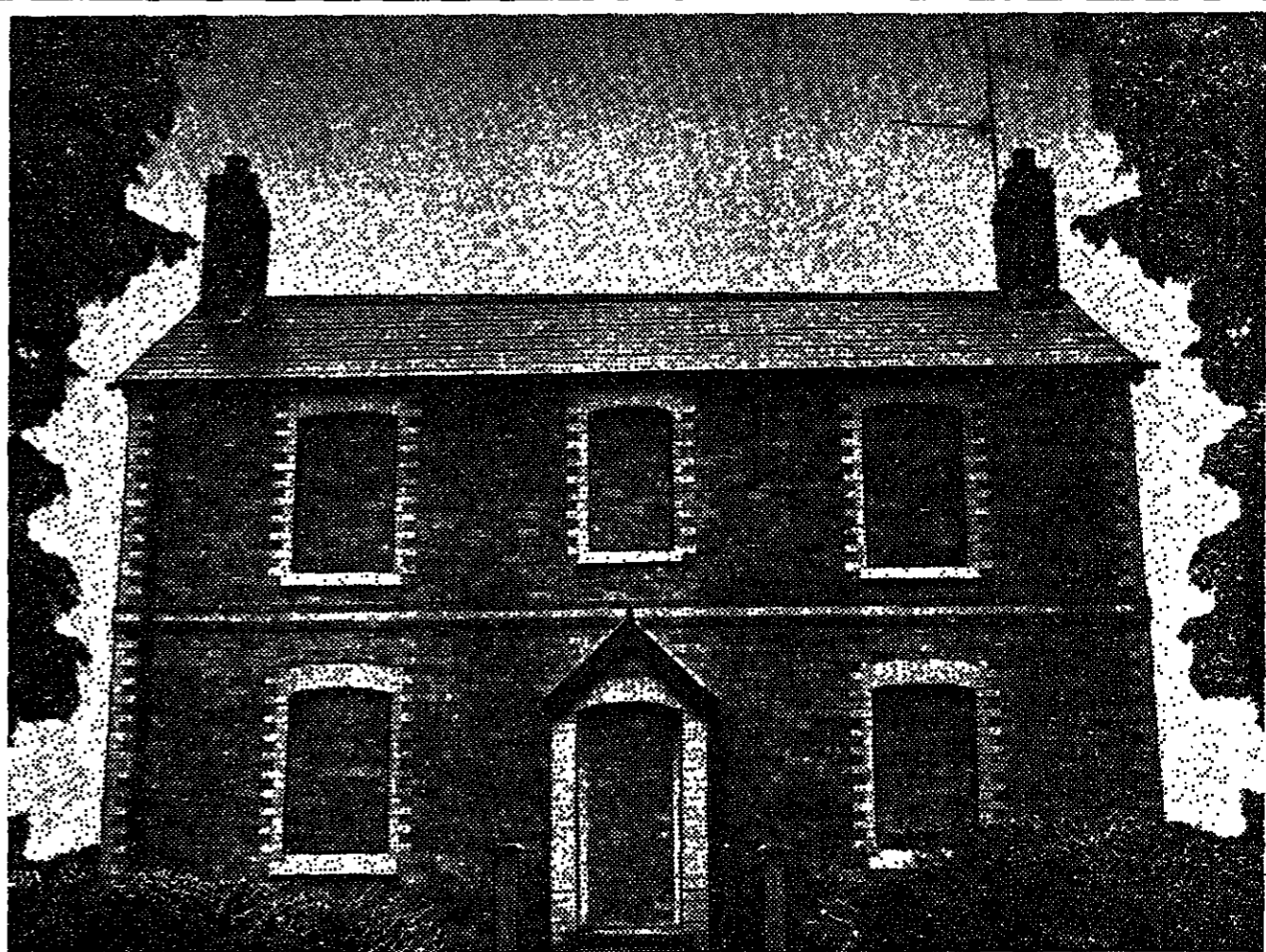
● Food for the picnic lunch with Jean Muir, Zandra Rhodes and David Hockney (pictured left to right, above) could prove a problem, since the Japanese restaurants we spoke to did not seem geared up to picnics. However, the Hiroko at 17's Holland Park Avenue, London W11, does offer take-away meals from £7.50 to £11.50 per head which incorporate the main Japanese specialties such as the famous raw fish, *tempura* (fried fish, prawns and vegetables) and *yakitori* (skewered chicken). Plus, of course, *sake*: a 1.8 litre bottle costs £18.

● For his lightning visit to Italy and the Villa Maser, which is at Asolo, 50 miles east of Milan, Sir Roy and friends need only to make the short journey from

Knole to Biggin Hill Airport, where an executive jet will be on hand to do the necessary wafting. They will still need passports but checking in is the merest formality compared with taking a scheduled flight from Heathrow or Gatwick (and even Heathrow has its executive terminal where formalities are more or less dispensed with and the check-in need be no more than 15 minutes before take-off). Fairlight Aviation, a company based at Biggin Hill, Kent, suggests its Cessna, an eight-seater with every creature comfort from sumptuous seats to an obliging hostess and a flight time to Milan of 105 minutes. Should the Japanese picnic have proved less than filling, A champagne meal can be taken in-flight. Price for the return trip: about £3,300.



reluctant to put a figure on Knole, or, indeed, Sir Roy's alternative choice, Hardwick Hall, in Derbyshire, pointing out that each contains treasures that are literally beyond price. But based on the current cost of taking on such properties, with the example of Belton House fresh in the mind, it reckons that Sir Roy would be lucky to get much change from £15m for either Knole or Hardwick. As for Hidcote, that magnificent kaleidoscope of gardens-within-a-garden on the edge of the Cotswolds, the trust's comment was: "Sir Roy has selected probably the most valuable thing of its kind in the country." To create Hidcote took the resources of an American millionaire's son.



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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL 1

A holiday in Asia gave Beryl Downing more than she bargained for

Strange meeting with reality aboard a ship of dreams

Dear Diary,

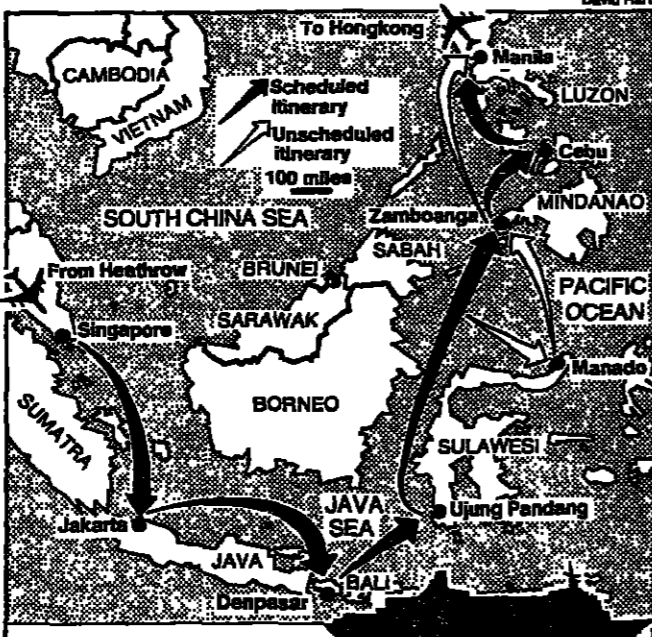
A cruise in the South China Seas - just imagine: diamond-studded skies, golden sunsets, aquamarine seas - a hemisphere designed by Fabergé and peopled by Alan Wicker look-alikes wearing a good deal of gold braid. Will the reality be half as exciting as the anticipation?

Day 1: Join the Royal Viking Star at Singapore. How odd that something so elegant at sea can look like an inverted whale in dock. And whatever happened to portholes? Windows appropriate to a high rise office block are short on romance. Still, plenty of gold braid about, although none at my table, which includes the spitting image of Bertie Wooster and a fair likeness of TV's Eddie Shoestring. I am impressed. I am meant to be.

Day 2: Ears ring with warnings of the Al Reed of cruise leaders: "Jakarta is dirty, vendors are worse than at the Pyramids and buses and cars are not the greatest, but it's what they have. Be patient, it isn't like back home." Al has clearly never been to Bermondsey. In trepidation take a nice safe day tour (S65) to the gardens of Bogor. Am promised Rafflesia, the flower with the world's largest bloom, 3ft across, an orchid house where more than 3,000 hybrids are grown and a presidential palace. National museum and batik factory thrown in.

Gardens of Bogor are strewn with frangipani blossom (which smells wonderful) and small boys (who don't). They are selling insistently "genuine moonstones". Bertie Wooster burps astutely and pays five times the going price - for plastic. Boys can't believe their luck and cling to the party like little brown bears.

Alas, the Rafflesia isn't out, the orchid houses were closed in



1980 owing to thefts and no one is allowed in the presidential palace. The guide refuses to take us to the batik factory saying there isn't time. We file through the national museum and find a room filled with cases of priceless Ming and Blue Rinse behind me is not impressed. "You'll find this stuff in most departmental stores back home", she sniffs. Probably made into lamps.

Day 3: At sea. No excuse to be lonely. There is a dominoes tournament at 9am, Jane Fonda exercises (without Jane Fonda) at 9.30, ping-pong, square dancers, needlepointing with Uncle Bill, origami with Setoko, napkin folding with Barbara, bingo and an enrichment (sic) lecture "Equity ownership v Debt Loaner-ship".

In between is people-watching time. There are 34 British, 50 Australians, and a two-by-

two assortment of Dutch, Thai, Germans, Belgians and Spanish. All the rest of the 750 passengers are American. Age-range: early retired, retired and well past bed-time.

Day 4: Bali. Try to beat the tour game by hiring a car. Much gesticulating and running about in intense heat. All the air-conditioned cars are taken. Accept any old car just to get moving and create a breeze. It comes with a delightful guide much given to philosophy and smiling. Self-drive is not possible.

First stop, Goa Lawah, a cave with grey, knobby walls which seem to pulsate. They do pulsate. The knobles are thousands of bats, clinging as close together as pebbles on Brighton beach and occasionally opening their mouths to yawn at the shrine's worshippers. It is the visual equivalent of touching a snake.

On to the beautifully painted, moated hall of justice at Klungkung and past the rice terraces, through vivid green lush landscapes. Needn't have worried about the lack of air-conditioning. The Balinese gods have turned on a million hosepipes and you can hardly see through the downpour. The locals take no notice and simply hoist the handiest umbrella - a banana leaf.

Lunch at the Batur Garden Restaurant overlooking the volcano Mount Batur and then back via the Elephant cave, Goa Gajah. On the steps a young woman is grooming her mother's hair with her fingers - I ask to take a photograph and the older woman refuses, vehemently, even for money. Her daughter explains that she is picking out grey hairs and Mama refuses to have the operation on record.

Back to the quay in the dark, snapping up batik and carvings by torchlight and beating the prices down to as near half price as possible - never buy anything without at least a third off the asking price anywhere in Indonesia. Sad to leave. I want

to come back. If you only have a day on Bali, do this trip rather than going to Denpasar, the main town. It's worth it.

Day 5: At sea. Feel very ungracious to be bored by the idea of more food (12,000 of caviar on board) more napkin folding and more cocktail bashing. Decide I am lacking in upward mobility and resolve to meet one friendly outgoing American per day, on the basis that it will make me feel better when I stop.

Difficult to tell them apart as all the men seem to be wearing megaphonic check trousers and all the women have twice the normal quota of teeth. (PS Some of my best friends are American, but they don't take cruises.)

One such has buttonholed Bertie who is savagely indignant at having been left to entertain her for two hours the previous evening by Shoestring, who found more succulent fish to fry. Out to prove brain can outshine beauty. Bertie challenges Shoestring to a backgammon tournament.

Day 6: Ujung Pandang, capital of South Sulawesi, where no Royal Viking has ever been before. Our tour bus driver gets lost trying to find the port of Makassar. Every time he drives down a wrong mud lane and has to back up, the residents come out in their curlers to cheer him and goats and chickens fly in all directions. They have the sunniest smiles I've ever seen.

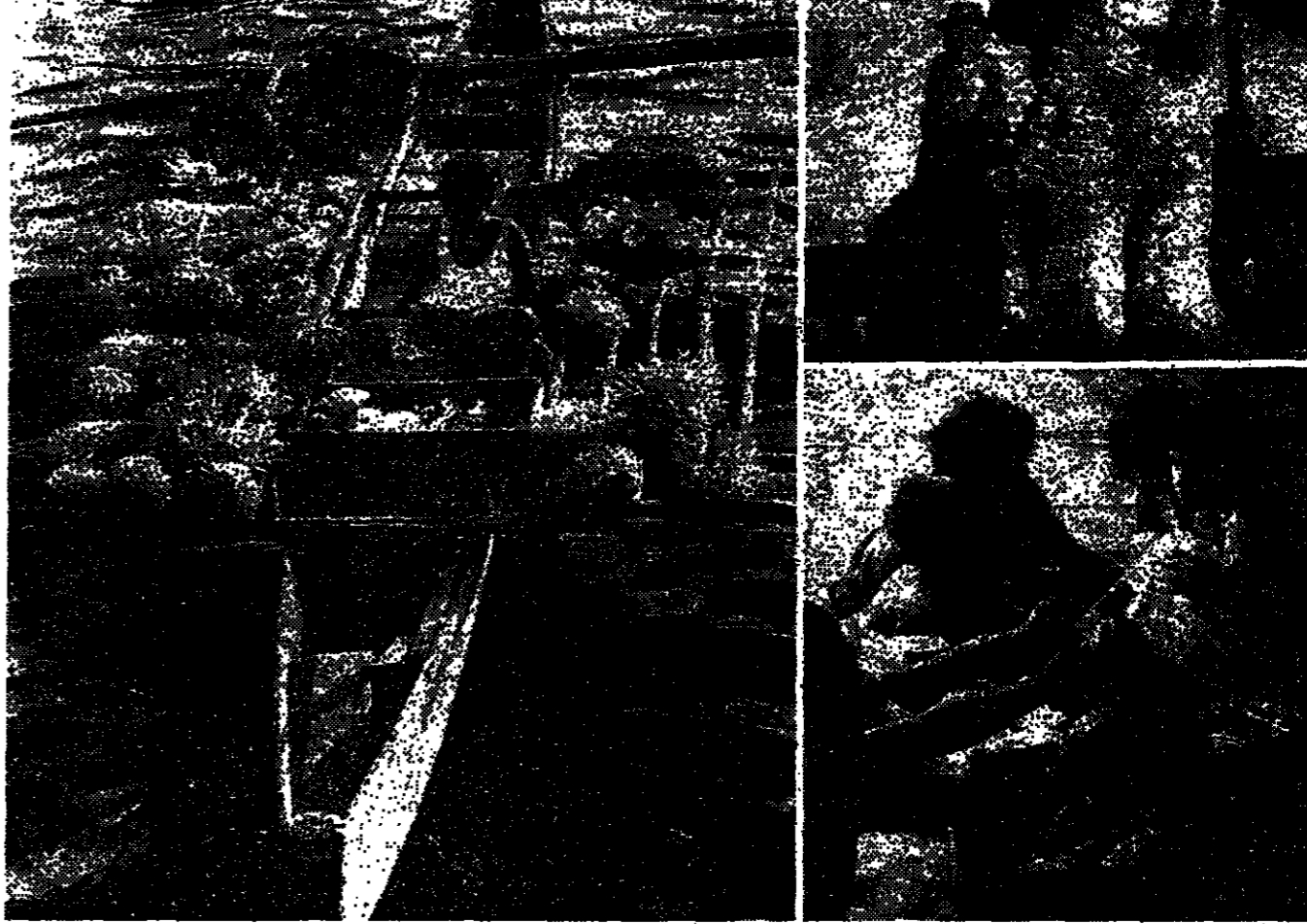
Day 7 and 8: At sea. Swimming, eating, shuffleboard, eating, golf, eating, table tennis, grand worldly goods; the sight of children and suitcases had convinced the captain that even pirates would not bring babies to waylay a cruise ship where passengers founded only on the rocks in their dry martinis.

We learned later that the Bojo had run into a storm, run out of fuel and had drifted without any form of communication - not even flares - until we sighted her. 110 miles out of her way. She had been drifting for ten days and four of those had been without water. An old man and a small girl had died at sea.

At 8 o'clock I am woken by the voice of Captain Ola Harsheim telling us that his crew had picked up four men in the water at 6am. They were from an Indonesian rice trader, adrift without fuel, and we were about to pick up the other survivors.

On deck a drizzle blurs the meeting of sea and sky, like a badly sewn seam, and applied over the join is a painted, rusting ferry boat that looks big enough to carry 20 day trippers from Margate to Broadstairs.

One hundred and fifty one people were led and carried from that boat, called Bojo. It must have been standing room only. They had set out from Parepare in South Sulawesi for a four-day journey to Borneo, in



Shell and stone: A sea gypsy surrounded by her wares in Manado (left); Dutch official meets demon in Bali (top) and a young tourist listens to the patter of tiny street vendors at the Lamtaka quayside, in Zamboanga.

search of jobs and a new life. They had babes in arms and bundles containing all their worldly goods; the sight of children and suitcases had convinced the captain that even pirates would not bring babies to waylay a cruise ship where passengers founded only on the rocks in their dry martinis.

On the day of Operation Rescue the captain and crew were busy attending to the refugees and keeping the wires buzzing with international negotiations between Oslo, San Francisco and Jakarta. We had watched the blanketed figures being brought aboard, silent, shivering, bemused, being examined by the ship's doctor - who looked rather more accusatory to dispensing Kwells than cholera jabs - and being escorted to the crew's quarters or to the ship's hospital.

The captain told us that we were to return to Indonesia and so miss some of our itinerary, saying quietly and firmly in his Norwegian-accented, perfect English: "We have to do this for these people." Nobody was in any doubt that he had made the right decision, and passengers and crew raised \$7,847 to help the refugees. With a donation from the ship's charity funds each survivor was given \$60 - to us the cost of a pair of shoes, for them compensation for losing everything they possessed.

Day 10: We anchor off Manado and launches take our visitors to safety. The Indonesian government had agreed to pay their passage back to Parepare. The children went ashore carrying balloons and wearing paper party hats and clothes given by the crew. One boy had a T-shirt saying "You're happier at sea".

As the men said goodbye to the gangplank they thanked the crew with a typically Indonesian gesture - each shook hands and then placed the palm of his hand flat on his chest.

Day 11: Made up time by racing at 26.7 knots (usual cruising speed 16 knots, top speed 28). Water in the swimming pool at such a list you could swim along high tide, down a hill and back along low tide. Back in the world of beautiful people Bertie learned the hard way that brains on a ship are only useful on toast and lost the backgammon game.

Arrived in Zamboanga with enough time to drive through hand-painted scenery to see the village on stilts at Taluksangay, built by the Sarnal people, one of the five groups of Filipino Muslims. Climbed a look-out to

be met at the top by a commando-attired soldier. He was friendly enough, even if his gun wasn't, but then I don't look much like a Muslim secessionist.

Day 12: Manila. Stay at the Mandarin before flying to Hongkong and then home. I haven't any sensation of having travelled anywhere. Islands have appeared like scenes in a pop-up book - how can I say I have "done" each one in a day? Still, it was a fantastic experience. If travel is about adventure and tourism is about sunshine and chips, what is cruising? Our cruise, and I suspect most others was not about places, but about people and fantasies. We were lucky in that the addition of Indonesian temporary passengers made it about reality as well.

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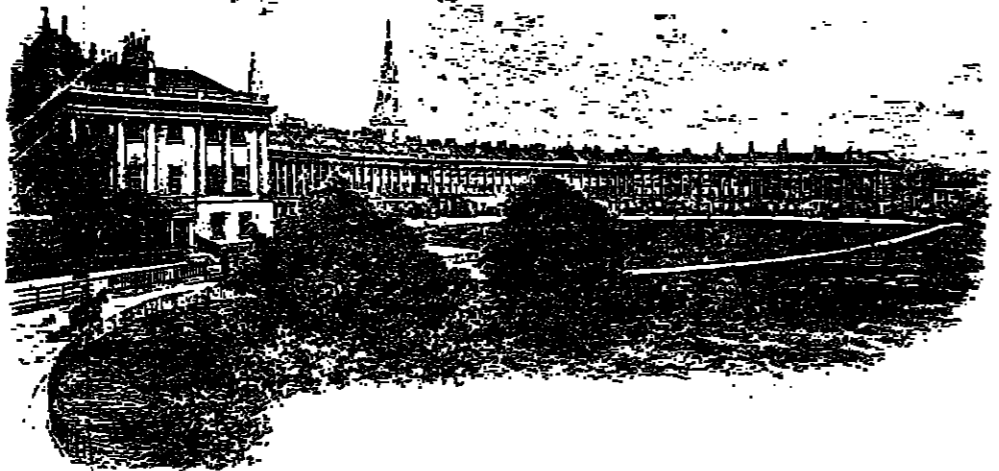
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TRAVEL 3

Hotels can cope when baby comes too

Peter Stothard takes his four-month-old daughter travelling and puts a new family guide to a stiff test in elegant Bath



Timeless elegance: An engraving made in the 1880s of the Royal Crescent Hotel in Bath

It was early on a bright spring morning in one of England's most distinguished eighteenth-century streets. Outside Bath's Royal Crescent Hotel were two grey Mercedeses, parked bonnet-to-bonnet, their two chauffeurs chattering quietly; inside, two businessmen, forehead-to-forehead, were holding a breakfast conference to plot the penetration of the US talcum powder market.

They had come to what is an exclusive oasis of quiet in a city which, more than any in England, likes to think of itself as above the common herd. Finely framed pastel portraits smiled benignly on the breakfasting moguls.

Suddenly there was a crash of cutlery, then a muffled shout, then a quavering, piteous scream: Miss Anna Stothard, aged four months, had taken her first grab at hot black coffee in high-conductivity bone china. What had been a crisp white tablecloth was now wet brown. A few feet away, what had been a peaceful talk-along shop was embroiled in chaos. The chauffeurs were back at their wheels earlier than expected that day.

Bath is not renowned as a suitable holiday place for families with young children. But then, according to a new guide-book, sponsored by the Peasodouze people (of disposable nappy fame), few parts of Britain boast more than the occasional hotel, pub or restaurant where a baby can be fed and watered, still less fitted with a fresh nappy in the section covering Bath it offered a number of places where Anna would, it was claimed, be welcomed. The city was also remembered fondly by Anna's mother and father for romantic weekends of pre-parenthood. Could the Bath waters suit the baby - and her servants. We set off to find out.

It should be said at the outset that the Royal Crescent Hotel was perhaps a perverse choice. It is not in the Peasodouze guide and is noted in other guides as one of the greatest (i.e. most child-free) hotels in the world.

We figured, however, that if a non-millionaire were ever to want to spend more than £150 on a night at a holiday hotel, he might want to do so when his wife has just presented him with a fine - if extremely tiring - addition to the human race. And surely one of the criteria for being a "great hotel" was that it could cope with anything?

The Royal Crescent did indeed cope very well. The coffee-throwing incident rocked the management's attempt to recreate eighteenth-century standards of service only very slightly. Anna liked the Duke of York suite (£160 per night, excluding morning coffee) where the length of uncluttered close-carpeted allowed speeds from her baby-walker undreamt of at home. The ice bucket for the welcoming battle of champagne proved very useful for

The doorman had an amazed look

cooling formula-milk. Excellent room service made sure that hotel diners did not need to suffer the fate of the breakfasters.

The arrival was something of an event in itself. Even the most experienced doorman can be forgiven for looking amazed at the armful of toys, nappies and baby foods that accompany a four-month-old explorer on her early journey into the unknown. As father passed the "fine" Brussels tapestry on the "rare" horseshoe-shaped staircase, he reflected that Rex Harrison (whose name was prominent in the room's private visitor's book) had probably not arrived carrying a Mothercare sterilizing unit. But we were soon settled in - and smoothly cared for and settled out again.

For the rest of the week we moved to the nearby Francis Hotel, owned by Trust Houses Forte and given a good report in the Peasodouze guide. Wherever one goes with a small baby, the holiday becomes a form of camping - a floor-level life of outspread rugs, food packets, water jars and kettles boiling on the carpet. The Spencer suite at the Francis - though initially very different from the panoramic views and period furnishings of the Duke of York - soon began to look very like it. Milk bottles joined the marriage-plates of Charles and Di on the mantelpiece. Zinc-and-castor-oil cream jostled for position with the chocolate-covered nuts and the sherry decanter.

The two-roomed suite at the Francis - though costing a £25 supplement on top of the £33 per person rate for bargain weekends - made an enormous difference to the job of looking after a baby and relaxing oneself at the same time. One person could sleep while the other two played. There were two bathrooms too - so one of them could be kept almost civilized.

On arrival, the hotel provided a smart blue box of baby-goods, nappies, pins, cotton-wool buds and the like. The restaurant was welcoming to all three of us at dinner as well as breakfast. A waitress offered to take Anna away from us while we ate and provided a safe high chair when we preferred to keep her with us. I asked the manager whether the company had specially identified couples with young children as an untapped holiday market. "Not really," he replied. "The main aim is to accustom the youngsters to going to hotels."

Bath is a studiously beautiful

city. Its tight town planning inside a natural amphitheatre of hills has made the city compact enough for a baby in a pushchair to visit the excellent shops and most of the sites - the Roman baths, the Georgian crescents and squares - without provoking parental fatigue. But of the 800,000 visitors who come to Bath each year, it is estimated that less than 10 per cent bring young children. The hotels may be mostly full but they do not take out their coats very often.

This may be a hang-over from the raffish reputation of the baths themselves, the days of Beau Brummel, prosperous sybarism and quick cures. Today, however, the spa is closed to bathers and since a pollution scare in the late 70s, the city had been awaiting a new bore-hole.

A development consortium, which includes the owners of the Royal Crescent Hotel, hope that in future the "new" waters will concentrate on attracting the overweight rich to its complex of urban health farms. In the meantime the city offers a generous welcome to babes-in-arms - from the smallest café which allowed Anna to be changed in its kitchen to the most famous restaurant, The Hole in the Wall, which gave her a plastic duck.



The Peasodouze Family Welcome Guide (Sphere books, £2.95). The Royal Crescent Hotel (Bath 319090), The Francis Hotel (Bath 319090), The Francis Hotel (Bath 24257); both these hotels, and most others in Bath, are heavily booked throughout the summer, especially at weekends.

Continuing our occasional series on summer islands, Rob Neillands visits Herm

The speck of land which exports pleasure

We caught the milk run to Herm, but only just. A frantic dash around the harbour of St Peter Port for the 8.30am boat, had us leaping aboard just as the ferry cast off, quite ready to collapse in the shelter of the cabin and rest, while the boat crossed the five-mile wide strip of water which separates little Herm from the large Channel Island of Guernsey.

The Bailiwick of Guernsey actually consists of four main islands, Sark, Alderney, Herm and Guernsey itself, plus a number of smaller ones, and with the neighbouring Bailiwick of Jersey it makes up all that remains of the ancient Dukedom of Normandy.

Our present Queen holds the Channel Islands by her right as Duke of Normandy, and the Islands' guidebook therefore lists some curious local functionaries, relics from the feudal past: The States of Deliberation, The Peoples' Deputies, The Douzaine, the Procureurs of the Poor, Major Wood, who was waiting for us by the milk churns as the ferry nudged in to the shore, has his own unusual title, He is the Tenant of Herm.

Down the ages all sorts have made their home on Herm. Neolithic man lived here, and Duke Robert, the Conqueror's son, gave it to the monks of Mont-St-Michel, before departing on the First Crusade. Prince Blucher, a descendant of Wellington's comrade-in-arms at Waterloo, bought the Tenancy in 1884 and lived here until the outbreak of the First World War, planting the great, flat-topped Monterey pines and those tall, peeling eucalyptus trees that still scent the evening air. He also introduced wallabies but they soon died out.

After the war, the writer Compton Mackenzie became the Tenant and lived for three years at the Manor House, which he thought the ugliest building in Europe. It looks quite pleasant today, with its medieval crenellated roof. Close by stands the little Norman Chapel of St Tuguel, where the islanders and their guests assemble for services on Sundays.

Peter Wood and his wife Jenny bought the tenancy of Herm in 1949. During the war years they had dreamed of finding a place where they could work together and establish a friendly community, and Herm, it appeared, had potential, though it looked a little



On the right track: A cliff path encircles the island and gives fine views

daunting at first sight: less of a dream, more of a nightmare. Vacated by the German occupying forces only a few years before, their island home was a dilapidated, overgrown, run-down wreck, without even the most basic services. "We had then three weeks on the island before we found a cottage we didn't know existed, completely overgrown and hidden in the brambles. It had an Irishman living in it," recalls Peter, reflectively. "A nice chap."

Transforming the Herm of then to the Herm of now must have been a task to make cleansing the Augean stables seem a doddle, but the results are clear to see. Today the island is trim, cared-for and prosperous. It supports a working community of ten families who between them run the various Wood enterprises, the dairy farm, the shops, an hotel, beach cafe, restaurants, campsites and a pub, all catering for the summer tourist trade. "Our only exports," explains the Major, "are pleasure and milk."

Herm may look like another tourist's island, but there is much more to it than that. There is a school, a fire-brigade, a power station, and enough wells now to ensure the water supply. They don't need a policeman. It took years of work and not a little courage to create all this, but the Woods' early dreams have come true. Herm is a home.

All this has been done without spoiling the charm of a very attractive island. Herm is quite small, only five hundred acres, just one-and-a-half miles long and half a mile wide, at least when the tide is in. When the tides - those huge tides of the Channel Islands - go out, Herm expands dramatically, revealing a vast array of jagged rocks and offshore reefs.

These are best seen from the cliff path which encircles the island and gives great views across the sea to the other islands round about, to Sark, to Jethou near by, and to the more populated bulk of Guernsey, just across the sound. Few tourists visit Guernsey without making at least a day trip to Herm, and boats ply to and fro until late at night in summer.

However, it is best to book well ahead and stay at The White House Hotel, or in a self-catering flat, or on one of the campsites, and spend a few days

exploring the island and getting to know the inhabitants. It's a pretty and varied kind of place, which seems much bigger than it actually is, a mixture of moorland and pasture, with steep cliffs, dunes and wide sandy beaches. Shell Beach, on the north-east tip of the island, is just one of its unique attractions. By some quirk of the tides and the ocean currents, this sandy bay is littered with up to two hundred or more different kinds of seashell, some rare and a draw for collectors.

The sandy dunes behind are a nesting ground for puffins, and birds abound, with more than a hundred different species being recorded in a good year. The bathing is safe, the boating superb, the climate mild, but above all, it's a friendly place.

Major Wood often wanders about, chatting to his staff and to visitors, many of whom are regular guests who return to Herm year after year, enjoying the warm, quiet evenings by the shore, when all the day-trippers have gone, and Herm, once again, becomes a dream.

Full details on Herm from the States of Guernsey Tourist Board, PO Box 23, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, (0481 24411). Guernsey can be reached by Sealink ferry from Portsmouth and Weymouth or by direct flights by Air UK from Heathrow, Exeter or Southampton. Flight-time from Heathrow one hour. Scheduled Apex return fare from Heathrow £71. The White House Hotel, Herm (0481 22159). Holiday information from The Administration Office, Herm Island, Guernsey (0481 22377).

Spring bulbs get most of the credit for the garden's flower display at this time of the year, but they are only part of the picture. Many other plants and their splash of colour to enhance the display of bulbs, and one of the best among these is the polyanthus.

Polyanthuses are members of the primula family and can be quite magnificent in flower. They make excellent bedfellows for hyacinths but are often too early to enhance the main flowering display of May. They are particularly suitable for bedding schemes but also make good permanent subjects in border displays.

Polyanthuses in border displays can be left to grow into bigger plants and, more importantly, to seed themselves where they are. Those used in bedding schemes are best lifted and lined out as they pass out of flowers. Where they are planted through hyacinths, lift them with the bulbs. If they are looked after, they will produce better plants with bigger heads of flowers in their second year.

IN THE GARDEN



Minor attractions: Some examples of dwarf plants (left to right) Notofagus procera, Quercus and Malus cerasifera

Successful cultivation on a small scale

Bonsai is the culture of plants in small, shallow trays or other small containers, the plants so treated remaining dwarf and as a rule compact. It is also the name given to the dwarf plants. A great deal of skill is required to produce a worthy specimen.

Soil in the shallow trays will not hold much water and food in the way of minerals is soon used up. One of the most important tasks is to ensure that the plant does not suffer from starvation and the best way to do this is to repot when required.

The best time to move bonsai is as growth starts after its dormant period or as growth begins to increase in the spring. I move bonsai at about the same time as evergreens, in late April to early May. Some experts prefer the move to be made in early April, although new growth may not yet be evident.

Always use a good quality mixture of

soil, peat and sand. Although I am a devoted user of soilless compost I do not recommend these composts for bonsai. Body is required and the compost must be the best you can make. Plant's roots must breathe: water-logged soil has no air and plants are drowned. Lifting the plant from one container to another allows a better exchange of air, and it is essential to allow free drainage when repotting.

It is not always easy to lift the plant from its container, which should be selected to allow for easy repotting. Try to lift the root ball by inserting a tool under it. If it is hard to get it out of the pot it may be necessary to cut the roots around the edge of the pot. Ease the soil from between the roots with a pointed stick, removing as much as you can. That will make the true extent of the root system clear and pruning will nearly always be necessary.

The plant can now be repotted. The new

container should be slightly bigger than the old one. It is essential to make sure all the spaces which are now open should be filled with soil, so potting will take longer than for normal repotting of other plants. The new soil should be dry enough to work into the spaces and then lightly tamped down with a flat-ended cane. Gently lifting the pot and tapping the base also helps to firm the soil. Level off the soil so it allows enough space to water the plant; it should not be so full that water when applied runs over the side of the pot. Always water in after potting, and overhead syringing will keep the foliage moist.

Place the bonsai plant in a light, airy situation. It needs good light although does not like to be exposed to the heat of the sun through a window.

Ashley Stephenson

Garden to visit

Smugglers' blossom

For those who have not invested in spring bedding there is now a lull in the garden. However, fruit blossom does carry us forward and the dusting of green as leaves appear on trees is as fresh and vibrant now as it will be all summer.

The Owl House in Kent is full of blossom. Leased to Thomas Wyllard in 1522 for the annual rent of one cockerel, it later became the headquarters of a gang of wool smugglers whose use of the owl's cry gave them the name of "the owlers" and their house that of "The Owl's House".

The parts of the garden which are close to the house are in the cottage-garden tradition, with box edging and roses and curved beds set among the neatly cut lawns. Away from the house the garden becomes more innovative where the acres of deciduous woodland meet meadow and lawns which are tinged blue by clouds of common speedwell. Most of the daffodils are over but on the wood's fringe flowering cherries now provide a mass of pink and white blossom. Roses scramble up rustic pyramids and banks of rhododendrons and azaleas crowd into the woods.

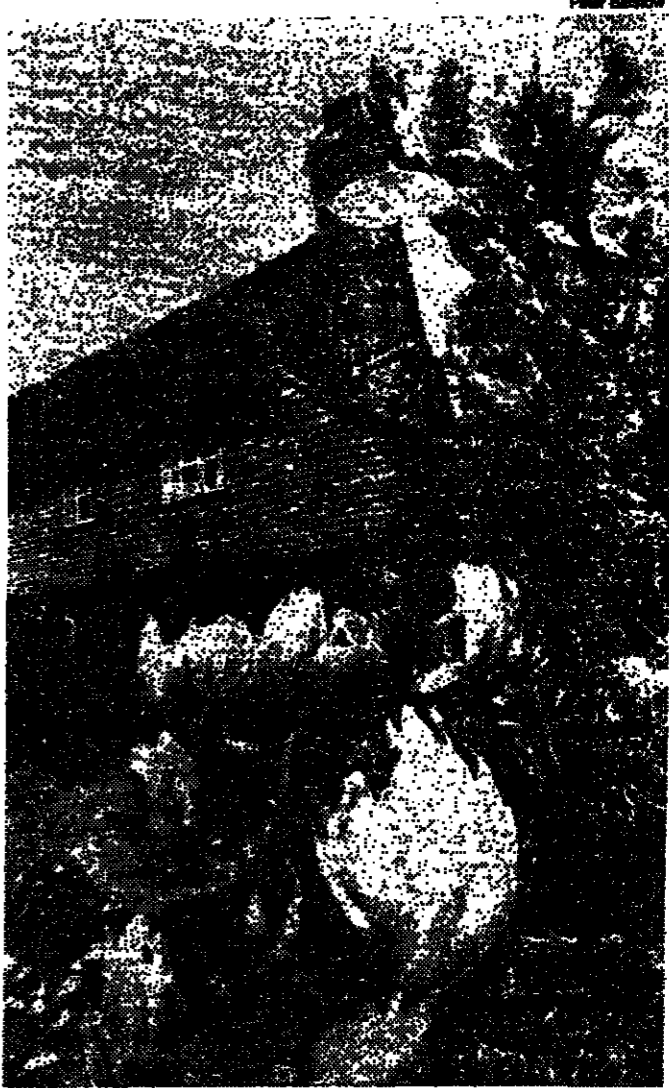
Through the centre of the wood a broad path has been cut and this leads the eye to a distant gazebo weighed down by wisteria and clematis. There are

few bluebells but plenty of violets and primroses and at one point a great drift of deep blue muscari. In these woods one has the feeling that the garden is Victorian and it is something of a shock to discover that in fact it was created as recently as 1952 by the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava.

Lost among the trees is a water garden sheltered in a quiet dell. Although the water level is low, *Lysichiton americanus* (commonly known as the skunk cabbage) spreads its curious aroma and there is a mass of marsh marigolds. Those with sharp eyes will also find the Early Purple Orchid, which is quite common in the south, and the charming pink Lady's Smock, *Cardamine pratensis*, the bottom leaves of which really are seen at their best in a woodland setting. Their reflections into the still pools. Colour from piers and azaleas fills this tiny valley and also edges the ancient stone steps which lead back up to the formal garden. On this side the garden is dominated by two huge chestnuts, their canopies preparing for the riot of colour which is due in a week or two.

Michael Young

The Owl House, Lambhurst, Kent, is off the A21 north of Lambhurst. Open daily all year, except Tues and Thurs, 11am-6pm. Adults £1, children 50p.



Colourful tradition: The Owl House all set for summer

Scent of summer

Scent is one of the pleasures of gardening which always seems to get better and can be enjoyed by all. *Stephanotis floribunda* (pictured right), one of the best of all greenhouse climbers, has a strong bouquet which will fill a home or greenhouse.

Known as the "Madagascar Jasmine" or the "Clustered Wax Flower", *Stephanotis* is a vigorous evergreen climber, requiring a framework, its leaves are thick and leathery and the flowers, produced over the summer from May onwards, are a distinct clear white; they look waxy, as the common name suggests. They are produced in clusters of five or more and are tubular with the petals opening outwards to give a trumpet shape. A strong soil is required; I have grown this plant in soilless composts but I obtain the best results from a good soil-based compost. John Innes Composts are good so long as they come from a good source. Old compost is no good. Being vigorous *Stephanotis* should be potted on annually until it reaches something like a 10in pot, and then repotted every third or fourth year.

Feeding is vital and must be done regularly from the time the buds begin to show in late-April. Use a good fertilizer such as Phostrogen, Baby Bio or Jobs Plant Sticks at least every two weeks until growth



slows in September or October. *Stephanotis* does not like the cold. A minimum winter temperature of 50°F, preferably 55°F, is required. In the summer the plant should be kept out of cold draughts and although it likes good light, strong sun in midsummer is best avoided. During their semi-dormant period in winter the plant must be kept moist but do not let waterlogged soil, and pots must be well drained.

Stephanotis makes a good house plant. It can be bought trained around a framework and should flower if well fed and watered in summer. Not the easiest plant to grow but a challenge for the gardener.

And so to bed

Spring bulbs get most of the credit for the garden's flower display at this time of the year, but they are only part of the picture. Many other plants and their splash of colour to enhance the display of bulbs, and one of the best among these is the polyanthus.

Polyanthuses are members of the primula family and can be quite magnificent in flower. They make excellent bedfellows for hyacinths but are often too early to enhance the main flowering display of May. They are particularly suitable for bedding schemes but also make good permanent subjects in border displays.

The plants may have produced full seed heads, although the seeds may need a little longer to ripen. Remove the flower heads carefully and place them on a sheet of paper in a greenhouse. Allow the heads to ripen; the seed is ripe when it begins to leave the seed box. All primula seed is best sown when it is ripe and can be put into cold frames which are not exposed to the sun. Plant into pots or other containers and place these on the north side of a wall or greenhouse. To prepare a bed for sowing out, dig one spit deep and ensure the soil is moist, adding organic matter where needed to improve its moisture-holding capacity. Divide the plants if possible when lifting: always leave one good crown and, if bigger plants are needed, split to leave at least two crowns. Water the plants well and make sure they do not dry out through the summer. The polyanthus and the primrose are quite different plants. Polyanthus have many flowers on an inflorescence while the new hybrid primroses produce many flowers which all have their own stems. Both are worth growing.

Chemical safety

Control of pests and diseases is something all gardeners should be fully conversant with. Many of the chemicals which are used today are most dangerous when concentrated, so great care must be taken when mixing concentrates or getting them from the container, to the watering-can or sprayer. This should always be done outside, not in the confines of a building or greenhouse.

Each chemical should carry a label which indicates the kind of damage it may do - whether it is a skin irritant, dangerous to inhale etc. Never take chances. You may get away with abuse for years; on the other hand, the first time you ignore a safety precaution there could be disastrous consequences. There are chemicals for weeding, to control pests and to control diseases. They often have an active ingredient which is unpronounceable, as well as a much better-known common name. You may find that skilled advice about the right chemical to use to control a particular problem is not always available at nursery and garden centres.

To help you solve this problem, a very useful booklet called the *Directory of Garden Chemicals* has just been released by the British

Agrochemicals Association. It gives both the trade names and the chemical names of the chemicals in everyday use in the garden, and tells you which chemical to use for which pest. If you follow the guidelines on spraying at the same time as reading the labels on the chemicals, you should have no trouble with spraying. The booklet costs £1 (including postage) from the British Agrochemicals Association, Alenford House, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 (01-735 8471).

don't buy a garden tractor



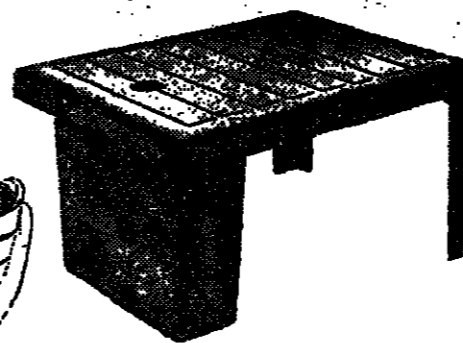
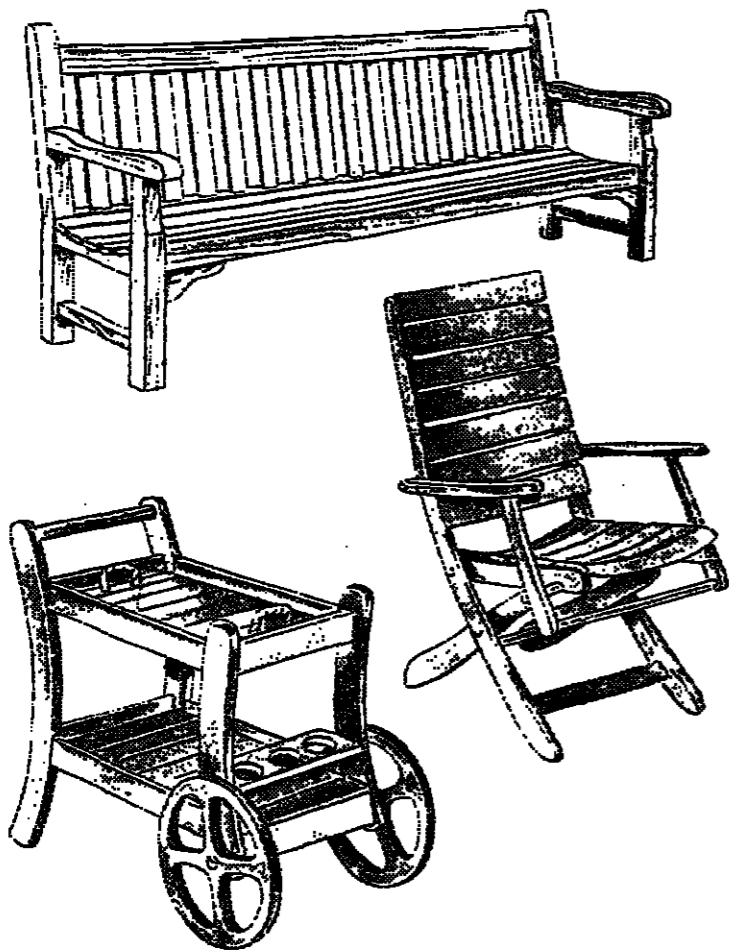
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VALUES

Furniture that grows on you



Glenham teak bench by Barlow Tyrie £139 to order from John Lewis. Folding chair £95, trolley £250 in natural or white finished beech by Dima through Leisure Plan Sales and Marketing

Cocktail table with cool-box top £27.95 by Allibert at Army & Navy, Victoria; two-position chair £79.95 and five-position high back chair £127.50, both including cushions; matching parasol £89.95, all at Selfridges. Patio table 47in diameter £213.35 at General Trading Company. All by Grosfillex in white resin

Reproduction Art Nouveau bench in cast aluminium £285 and period clockface and base £400, House of Steel. Lion's head table £299 to order and New Regency chair £7 by Brambley at John Lewis

pen plan living is taking a literal turn. Lounging, dining and cooking in one space are no longer indoor activities and the sunny start to the season has brought the decorators out in droves, determined to make the garden look like a furniture showroom with wall-to-wall grass.

They are no longer content to snatch the sun in an elderly deckchair. The usual "starter set" for the garden is a table, parasol and four chairs with cushions and the price many people are prepared to pay for such a set is from £135 to £600, although it is possible to pay well over £1,000.

Discriminating buyers, however, realise that the popular white resin finishes, however weather-worthy, have to have a suitable setting. They are not compatible with older gardens which demand natural materials such as stone and wood which form an integral part of the garden design.

Traditional teak garden furniture is therefore increasing in popularity, modernized to the extent that the seats are now curved for comfort, but still with the capacity to weather over the years to a silver grey.

Most branches of the John Lewis partnership have, to order, an excellent teak range by Barlow Tyrie. Braintree is the lightest version - a 5ft bench costs £95 - but 1 particularly liked the Glenham set which includes the bench illustrated at £139 and matching armchairs at £95 each. They have a sturdy solidity which looks capable of withstanding generations of storm and tempest and other normalities of the British summer. To order only.

There is also a range of teak tables from £95 and an attractive wheeled lounge at £145, all of which can be left outside permanently. A concession to modern comfort are the cushions, which are more usually associated with folding garden chairs. John Lewis have a pale blue and beige stripe made up specially for them - a pleasant complement to the colour of the teak. Chair cushions are £24; the lounge cushion is £59.

For those who like the warm look of wood but want the convenience of

adjustability, the German company Dima produces a collection in lacquered beechwood, which is also weather-resistant. The three-position chair shown is £95 plus cushion about £30 and the wheeled trolley with a lift-out tray top is £250.

There is an attractive range of plain and striped cushion fabrics and the furniture is sold through garden centres. For a coloured leaflet, and stockists contact Leisure Plan Sales and Marketing, 28 Windhill, Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire (0279 505525).

A new wood introduced to the garden furniture market this year is jarrah from Western Australia, one of the hardest in the world and used for railway sleepers and in shipbuilding. It is a reddish brown which weathers to grey and has been made by Timbercraft into a collection of fairly rugged furniture which you assemble yourself.

The down-on-the-ranch character of the designs makes it particularly appropriate for barbecues. A 4ft round table costs £126, garden armchair £69 and wheeled lounge £110 (no cushions). All are to order at D. H. Evans, Oxford Street, London W1.

oolides and patios are the right environment for the white synthetic resin furniture which is taking over from the cheaper plastic-covered steel. It will not rust, so is well suited to being left out in a shower, or even all winter, and its continental styling (it is all imported at the moment) makes it a good deal more interesting than the tubular-frame folding furniture which has been unchanged for the past 20 years.

To my mind there is no point in buying expensive resin furniture unless it is versatile - I want a chair to be upright for lunching outside and adjustable to various heights for reading, loafing and sun-snatching afterwards.

The ones illustrated come from the new Boutique collection produced by the French company Grosfillex. The two-position chair is £79.95 and the five-position chair is £127.50. Both include cushions in shaded pink or blue stripes and are available at Selfridges.

The Grosfillex cushions are as weather-resistant as the frames. They are made of Dracon and I

know one owner who has left them out on her balcony for two years and they have neither faded nor disintegrated. When in use they dry out in minutes after a shower.

Stripes are very much in fashion at the moment, making anything floral look distinctly old-fashioned. General Trading Company at 144 Sloane Street, London SW1 is always a leader in garden furnishing trends and it shows the Grosfillex range in a vivid blue and green stripe, exclusive to it this season.

Emu, which is one of the largest producers of garden cushions and furniture in Britain, still finds that many customers want roses, roses all the way, but it has bravely introduced a striking terracotta stripe this year. General Trading is keeping the drinks cool with a low cocktail table (illustrated). It has a built-in cool box at one end which will hold ice packs and a couple of bottles and the top of the box is a lift-out tray segmented to hold olives, nuts and other nibbles. It costs £29.90; names of local stockists can be obtained by telephoning 0905 774221.

which have eight branches at Bagshot, Maidstone, St Albans, Woodbridge, Peterborough, Norwich, Arlebury and Solihull.

Another well-established name among manufacturers of top quality plastic resin furniture is Triconfort. Among its good ideas is a wheeled couch called Riviera (£412) which can be fitted with a small parasol, £77 and a neat bar with retractable wheels which has a counter top, and two shelves - one for the glasses and bottles, the other to hold four folding bar stools, £560 plus bar stools £66 each. Triconfort can be ordered at Harrods whose garden furniture exhibition opened in their Central Hall last week.

Finally, just in case those weather forecasts are correct and we really are in for a long, hot summer, Allibert has a neat solution to keeping the drinks cool with a low cocktail table (illustrated). It has a built-in cool box at one end which will hold ice packs and a couple of bottles and the top of the box is a lift-out tray segmented to hold olives, nuts and other nibbles. It costs £29.90; names of local stockists can be obtained by telephoning 0905 774221.

he heyday for metal garden furniture was during Victoria's reign when designers went over the furnishing top in the garden as in the house, dotting the landscape with elaborately embellished cast iron inspired by 19th-century's famous iron bridge.

Many of these designs are reproduced today but there are still genuine pieces to be found. A stone within reach of Islington could find a visit to House of Steel rewarding. There, at 400 Caledonian Road, London N1, there are 5,000 sq ft of warehouse and workshop full of what looks at first to be any old iron but turns out to be piles of original period bedsteads, railings, fireplaces, spiral staircases, pub tables, garden urns and furniture - just waiting to be polished or finished to your wishes.

Judy Cole started the House of Steel eight years ago, knowing nothing about refurbishing metalwork, but with all the enterprise and strength of character needed to run a workshop and a team of metalworkers. She now undertakes all types of

restoration - the railings in Chelsea's Chester Square are her team's work - as well as selling antiques and reproductions.

Some of the reproductions are superbly made in cast aluminium - a Victorian-style chair will cost about £55 - but some of the originals are not much more. I saw a genuine cast iron circular table and four chairs for £370 and single chairs from £75.

Put on old clothes, be prepared to clamber about and you are almost bound to find a treasure. I saw some elegantly slender wrought-iron seats made around the 1920s. A set of three with a table was £125, another of two chairs, a two-seater bench and a table was £200, primed ready for painting.

Or, for something interestingly individual, choose one of the cast-iron clock faces which can be mounted on an original Victorian pedestal and topped with glass - about £400, restored and polished.

The warehouse is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm and on Saturdays by appointment. Last year, Judy Cole also opened a small shop, Judy Cole & Son at 28 Camden Passage, London N1, which is open on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10am to 4.30pm and which is a showcase for some of her finished pieces from doorsteps to plant holders and garden benches.

I particularly liked a pair of white painted Georgian garden chairs, with curved slatted backs and seats, which seemed very well priced at £175 the pair and if you are searching for something elaborately decorative, there is a cast aluminium reproduction of an Art Nouveau bench with an elaborately scrolled back. One of these reproductions (illustrated) is on exhibition at the Los Angeles design centre. It is available here for £285.

Other names to note for period style metal furniture are Brambley Garden Furniture, 4 Crittall Drive, Springfield Industrial Estate, Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex, (0376 20210); Classic Garden Furniture, Audley Avenue, Newport, Shropshire (0952 813311), both for reproduction Victorian furniture; and The London Architectural Salvage and Supply Co, Mark Street, off Paul Street, London EC2 (01-739 0448) for pieces for restoration.

Heads you win

Horse and dog portraits are Adrian Blunt's specialties. She likes to visit and photograph the animal herself, but will do portraits from owners' photographs if they are good enough (you have to get down to the dog's eye level to get the proportions right). The medium is gouache on a tinted paper to suit the animal's



colouring, and it takes about two weeks to do one head. You can have a horse's head or a whole dog for £75, or a dog and four angles of its head on the same picture for £100. One dog with four other smaller dogs will cost £130. Inquiries to 2 Stanwick Road, London W14 (01-602 3586). Please telephone before visiting.

Key issue

A new hazard for holidaymakers is an international racket in which handbags are snatched abroad, addresses taken and house keys stolen and sent to accomplices in Britain, who ransack the empty houses. It originated in Spain, but will no doubt be copied by criminals in other countries. Householders are advised to leave their keys with neighbours instead of carrying them abroad, but there is another alternative - a live-in caretaker for the duration of the holiday. A company called Homesitters, approved by Crime Prevention

Officers, has been operating a nationwide service since 1981. All the sitters are mature, responsible people and their backgrounds are investigated over a period of 20 years. They are expected to keep strict company rules - no parties, no long-distance phone calls, no visitors after 10pm. If there are pets to look after, efforts are made to ensure a sitter who is an animal lover, and if you talk to your plants no doubt they will provide someone with a suitably reassuring substitute voice. Charges are by the day - from £6.84 (£8.34 with animals). For more details contact Homesitters, Most Farm, Buckland, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP22 5AY (0295 631289).

Spread the news

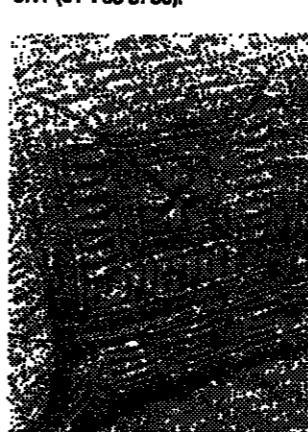
Annie Cole, who started to make traditional knitted cotton

bedspreads four years ago, has introduced a kit to make up into the wheat ear design, (illustrated here) which she adapted from a pattern in a Victorian magazine. The instructions are very clear, easy to work, and have been carefully thought out - right down to the print, which is large and clear, even for older eyes. The kit includes needles and enough white or ecru cotton to make a 5ft 6in x 8ft spread for £44.80 or 8ft 6in x 8ft for £58.50. A cushion kit to match costs £11.60.

The fine cotton is made specially for Annie Cole in Manchester for about half the price you pay for similar fine Continental knitting cottons. You can also buy it in 100gm balls at £1.50 each, to make up your own cotton sweater.

And if you like the bedspread but can't knit, Annie Cole has three traditional designs, ready-to-buy from £150 (£150 p&p) for a 5ft 6in

x 8ft size to £322 (£4 p&p) for a 10ft x 8ft 6in. Among the designs are a traditional raised-leaf pattern and an apricot leaf, with a smaller version for pram and cot covers from £20. Cushions in the same designs are from £10.50, 10in square. For more details write to Annie Cole 73 Princes Way, Wimbledon, London SW19 5HY (01-788 6786).



Foodnote

Manufacturers of low-calorie products always seem time to have worked on the principle that the tastier it is the more good it will do. Now some cornflakes have seen the light and are producing reduced-calorie lines that taste like the real thing.

St Ivel's "Shape" range, for instance, includes low-fat milk with the taste and texture of full milk - none of that thin, watery flavour of skimmed milk - and a soft cheese just as creamy rich as cream cheese but with 1 per cent fat instead of 45 per cent fat. Also in the range are a low-fat Cheddar-type cheese and a cottage cheese.

All four are made from a combination of whole milk and skimmed milk. The results are not as low in fat and calories as the counterparts made entirely with skimmed milk, but the do taste considerably better. Fine Fare stock the whole range; Sainsbury have the cottage and hard cheeses.

EATING OUT

Angela Gore



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French lessons for the cost-conscious

An increasing number of restaurants are following the French model and offering *prix fixe* menus, so that, in theory, the customer knows exactly what he or she will be paying. Unfortunately, with service charges, cover charges, wines and coffee generally not included, the "prix" fixed in your mind by the menu is usually substantially lower than the final bill.

The all-inclusive system adopted by two high-class French restaurants in London commends itself to the wallet, therefore.

When the Roux Brothers moved their star-spangled Le Gavroche into Mayfair a couple of years back, they held on to the original premises in Lower Sloane Street, rechristened it Gavvers in deference to the local patois and, sensing a gap in the market, installed a comprehensive fixed-price menu which included everything from a pre-dinner kir and a half-bottle of wine, to coffee and service.

The prospect of eating Roux food at prices which wouldn't stop the heart proved to be an instant success, and has remained an attraction ever since. So be warned that dinners there (£16.75 a head, all inclusive) in the small, brown-upholstered room dominated by portraits of Michael and Albert are likely to be crowded experiences.

There are at least eight main courses and seven hors d'oeuvres are generally available, ranging from boudin noir (black

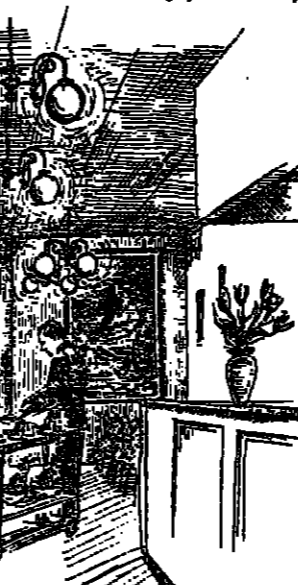
pudding) with apples, or melon with ham, to the more sophisticated likes of scallops in feuilleté pastry and fish terrines. But when, as happened to us, stale bread precedes the meal, and a rich, thick, un-Roux like cream and tomato sauce swamps an otherwise excellent parafait of crab, it becomes clear that Gavvers, despite its pedigree, can sometimes exhibit the fallibilities and misjudgments of other, less pretentious establishments.

What was surprisingly disappointing, considering they have their own butcher's shop, was the quality of the meats in our main courses - dry, overcooked lamb cutlets and rather tough escalope of veal - which no amount of precise saucing could disguise. Accompanying potato croquettes, cabbage and carrots did little to enhance the experience.

In fairness, the fish dishes (a choice of four, including lemon sole and brill) being served all round us seemed to create a better impression, so perhaps they are a surer route to satisfaction. Puddings seemed equally variable (Cointreau-flavoured ice cream, over-rich chocolate mousse), and so did the friendly but gauche service.

So one leaves Gavvers considering a number of questions. Can an elite organization really operate at "downmarket" prices? Is £16.75 cheap for the choice of food, including lemon sole and brill being served all round us seemed to create a better impression, so perhaps they are a surer route to satisfaction. Puddings seemed equally variable (Cointreau-flavoured ice cream, over-rich chocolate mousse), and so did the friendly but gauche service.

La Frimousse: Drawing by Francis Mosley



put down to inexperience or misguided, youthful enthusiasms in the kitchens, no such charity could be afforded the personnel at La Frimousse, since between them, they have had more than sixty years' experience at the Savoy Hotel. Fortunately, a recent meal there was, on its own terms, faultless.

Set in a rather bland shopping parade, the restaurant nevertheless manages to make the most of its small, L-shaped premises with tasteful rather staid furnishings, and well-spaced tables.

Having started out with an ambitious, classically-orientated, à la carte menu, La Frimousse has now also adopted a comprehensive dinner menu at £17.95 a head, which offers canapés, a choice of three hors d'oeuvres, three main courses, and dessert, with coffee, petits-fours, and a half-

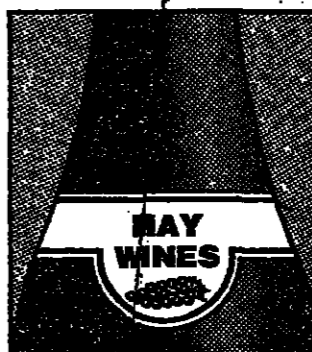
Putting the zap into summer

"One minute it's hot, the next it's cold," grumbled a friend this week and that thought - plus the imminent opening of the Chelsea Flower Show - must mean that another great British summer is about to begin. It is a pity that we cannot guarantee unbroken heat of the kind we enjoyed a fortnight ago as it would have been fun to concentrate entirely on cool, refreshing white wines for May, but as usual at this time of year a mixture of white and red seems the best bet.

These dry, flowery Alsace wines in their tall, green bottles are always good for warm weather and Sainsbury's has a stylish new Sylvaner on sale for a knock-down £2.40 - a good deal cheaper than most Alsace Sylvaners are elsewhere. The Sylvaner is often referred to as the workhorse grape of Alsace, which is just the polite way of saying that most of its wines are unbelievably dreary.

But Sainsbury's Sylvaner is definitely not that and comes from the oldest Alsace co-operative - Ingersheim near Colmar. Don't be put off either by its almost water-white colour with only a slight touch of greeny-gold because its strong bouquet and taste are as delightfully pungent, green and austere as any Alsace can could wish.

Burgundy's basic Bourgogne Blanc wines - mostly made from another workhorse grape, the tart Aligoté - frequently seem as dull to me as the Alsace Sylvaners. (The only real exception is the Bouzeron Bourgogne Aligoté from Aubert de Villaine, the joint owner of Romanée Conti.) In most cases it seems better to avoid



Bourgogne Aligoté altogether to go straight up to a Bourgogne Blanc wine made from the infinitely more appetising Chardonnay.

One of the best I have come across recently is Louis Jadot's splendid '78 Bourgogne Blanc wine made from the infinitely more appetising Chardonnay. It is expensive at £4.59 from Victoria Wine but '78 was an excellent white burgundy year and Jadot's '78 Bourgogne Blanc is considerably better than lots of indifferent Chablis I know at the same price.

You may have been lured into buying a cheap case of dry, white wine in an early rush of summer madness, thinking it would make an inexpensive thirst-quencher, and have found the taste beginning to pall after the first bottle. The answer is to nip round to Cullens and buy one of their fruit liqueurs - a dash of which will immediately turn a glass of indifferent white into a delicious summer tipple.

liqueurs from the Nuits-Saint-Georges house of Védrenne and, although not in the same league as Gabriel Boudier's from Dijon, these 18 per cent liqueurs are very good value at £4.25 for the half litre. A splash for instance of Védrenne's Cassis - Sainsbury's famous blackcurrant liqueur, placed in the bottom of a glass and topped up with Bourgogne Aligoté is the classic Kir recipe.

But any dull, dry white from anywhere in the world is, I think, much improved by this treatment. My two favourites in the Védrenne range are the delicious Crème de Fraîche des Bois and Crème de Framboise, both of which are packed with fruit.

On to red wines, and again Sainsbury's has a good May wine in their '79 Gevry Chambertin, a new addition to their Vintage Selection range, from Chanson Père et Fils at Beaune. I have never been that keen on the Chanson burgundies and did not like their '79 Beaune (also stocked by Sainsbury's) but their '79 Gevry Chambertin (£8.75) with its spicy, plummy nose and rich, warm full taste is a winner and ready I think, for drinking now.

Finally, a good Cabernet Sauvignon wine to try this month, in addition to a good Pinot Noir, is a California "Cab" that did well in a recent Cabernet Sauvignon tasting. The well-made Franzia Cabernet Sauvignon has a deep, purple colour and a lovely, full, fruity taste and finish. It costs £2.69 from Victoria Wine.

Jane MacQuitty

BRIDGE

Match up to all the tough challenges

Four books which I have recently received are all admirable. In *The Challenge Match* (Collins, £9.50), Hugh Kelsey uses the same format that he successfully employed in *The Tough Game* and *Needle Match*. The reader is invited to occupy the South seat for the duration of a tough 64-board match. He is presented with the decisions that would face the player in real life. Having made up his mind which line of play he should adopt, or what bid he would make, he turns to another section to see how he would have fared.

The hands are not designed for the beginner, but for the aspiring player, who will obtain excellent instruction from Kelsey's lucid explanation of how an expert thinks.

Here is an example. Whereas I show all four hands, the reader will only see the North-South cards when he tackles the problem.

North-South Game. Dealer East.

♠ 1082
♥ 10753
♦ A6
♣ 9752

♠ N
♥ W
♦ E
♣ S

♠ 1082
♥ 10753
♦ A6
♣ 9752

♠ 1082
♥ 10753
♦ A6
♣ 9752

West finds the inconvenient lead of the ♠5. Prospects are bleak because, in addition to the diamond finesse, declarer requires two spade tricks before the defenders establish their clubs.

There are two possible methods of attacking this spade combination, depending on which defender is more likely to have the spade length.

As West has overcalled in hearts, and has selected a club lead from length, it is logical to play East for the spade length. You win the club in hand and continue with a low spade. West wins and clears the clubs. Now you finesse the spade. When that holds, you take the diamond finesse, being careful not to block the suit.

If you followed that line of play, you would have gained 12

IMPs, because in the other room West eschewed the eccentric overall of one heart and North-South landed in four hearts, using the obvious four tricks.

Collins also publishes *The Mistake You Make at Bridge*, by Terence Reese and Roger Trevel (7.95, paperback £4.95). The book is divided into three sections: 'The worst mistakes', 'The commonest mistakes' and 'Mistakes that may be forgiven'. The example I have chosen comes from the part of the last section where the authors focus their attention on bidding.

As South you hold:

♠ 852
♥ 10863
♦ 1085
♣ 865

The bidding has been:

1♣ 2♥ 3♥ 4♥ 5♥ 6♥ 7♥ 8♥ 9♥ 10♥ 11♥ 12♥ 13♥ 14♥ 15♥ 16♥ 17♥ 18♥ 19♥ 20♥ 21♥ 22♥ 23♥ 24♥ 25♥ 26♥ 27♥ 28♥ 29♥ 30♥ 31♥ 32♥ 33♥ 34♥ 35♥ 36♥ 37♥ 38♥ 39♥ 40♥ 41♥ 42♥ 43♥ 44♥ 45♥ 46♥ 47♥ 48♥ 49♥ 50♥ 51♥ 52♥ 53♥ 54♥ 55♥ 56♥ 57♥ 58♥ 59♥ 60♥ 61♥ 62♥ 63♥ 64♥ 65♥ 66♥ 67♥ 68♥ 69♥ 70♥ 71♥ 72♥ 73♥ 74♥ 75♥ 76♥ 77♥ 78♥ 79♥ 80♥ 81♥ 82♥ 83♥ 84♥ 85♥ 86♥ 87♥ 88♥ 89♥ 90♥ 91♥ 92♥ 93♥ 94♥ 95♥ 96♥ 97♥ 98♥ 99♥ 100♥ 101♥ 102♥ 103♥ 104♥ 105♥ 106♥ 107♥ 108♥ 109♥ 110♥ 111♥ 112♥ 113♥ 114♥ 115♥ 116♥ 117♥ 118♥ 119♥ 120♥ 121♥ 122♥ 123♥ 124♥ 125♥ 126♥ 127♥ 128♥ 129♥ 130♥ 131♥ 132♥ 133♥ 134♥ 135♥ 136♥ 137♥ 138♥ 139♥ 140♥ 141♥ 142♥ 143♥ 144♥ 145♥ 146♥ 147♥ 148♥ 149♥ 150♥ 151♥ 152♥ 153♥ 154♥ 155♥ 156♥ 157♥ 158♥ 159♥ 160♥ 161♥ 162♥ 163♥ 164♥ 165♥ 166♥ 167♥ 168♥ 169♥ 170♥ 171♥ 172♥ 173♥ 174♥ 175♥ 176♥ 177♥ 178♥ 179♥ 180♥ 181♥ 182♥ 183♥ 184♥ 185♥ 186♥ 187♥ 188♥ 189♥ 190♥ 191♥ 192♥ 193♥ 194♥ 195♥ 196♥ 197♥ 198♥ 199♥ 200♥ 201♥ 202♥ 203♥ 204♥ 205♥ 206♥ 207♥ 208♥ 209♥ 210♥ 211♥ 212♥ 213♥ 214♥ 215♥ 216♥ 217♥ 218♥ 219♥ 220♥ 221♥ 222♥ 223♥ 224♥ 225♥ 226♥ 227♥ 228♥ 229♥ 230♥ 231♥ 232♥ 233♥ 234♥ 235♥ 236♥ 237♥ 238♥ 239♥ 240♥ 241♥ 242♥ 243♥ 244♥ 245♥ 246♥ 247♥ 248♥ 249♥ 250♥ 251♥ 252♥ 253♥ 254♥ 255♥ 256♥ 257♥ 258♥ 259♥ 260♥ 261♥ 262♥ 263♥ 264♥ 265♥ 266♥ 267♥ 268♥ 269♥ 270♥ 271♥ 272♥ 273♥ 274♥ 275♥ 276♥ 277♥ 278♥ 279♥ 280♥ 281♥ 282♥ 283♥ 284♥ 285♥ 286♥ 287♥ 288♥ 289♥ 290♥ 291♥ 292♥ 293♥ 294♥ 295♥ 296♥ 297♥ 298♥ 299♥ 300♥ 301♥ 302♥ 303♥ 304♥ 305♥ 306♥ 307♥ 308♥ 309♥ 310♥ 311♥ 312♥ 313♥ 314♥ 315♥ 316♥ 317♥ 318♥ 319♥ 320♥ 321♥ 322♥ 323♥ 324♥ 325♥ 326♥ 327♥ 328♥ 329♥ 330♥ 331♥ 332♥ 333♥ 334♥ 335♥ 336♥ 337♥ 338♥ 339♥ 340♥ 341♥ 342♥ 343♥ 344♥ 345♥ 346♥ 347♥ 348♥ 349♥ 350♥ 351♥ 352♥ 353♥ 354♥ 355♥ 356♥ 357♥ 358♥ 359♥ 360♥ 361♥ 362♥ 363♥ 364♥ 365♥ 366♥ 367♥ 368♥ 369♥ 370♥ 371♥ 372♥ 373♥ 374♥ 375♥ 376♥ 377♥ 378♥ 379♥ 380♥ 381♥ 382♥ 383♥ 384♥ 385♥ 386♥ 387♥ 388♥ 389♥ 390♥ 391♥ 392♥ 393♥ 394♥ 395♥ 396♥ 397♥ 398♥ 399♥ 400♥ 401♥ 402♥ 403♥ 404♥ 405♥ 406♥ 407♥ 408♥ 409♥ 410♥ 411♥ 412♥ 413♥ 414♥ 415♥ 416♥ 417♥ 418♥ 419♥ 420♥ 421♥ 422♥ 423♥ 424♥ 425♥ 426♥ 427♥ 428♥ 429♥ 430♥ 431♥ 432♥ 433♥ 434♥ 435♥ 436♥ 437♥ 438♥ 439♥ 440♥ 441♥ 442♥ 443♥ 444♥ 445♥ 446♥ 447♥ 448♥ 449♥ 450♥ 451♥ 452♥ 453♥ 454♥ 455♥ 456♥ 457♥ 458♥ 459♥ 460♥ 461♥ 462♥ 463♥ 464♥ 465♥ 466♥ 467♥ 468♥ 469♥ 470♥ 471♥ 472♥ 473♥ 474♥ 475♥ 476♥ 477♥ 478♥ 479♥ 480♥ 481♥ 482♥ 483♥ 484♥ 485♥ 486♥ 487♥ 488♥ 489♥ 490♥ 491♥ 492♥ 493♥ 494♥ 495♥ 496♥ 497♥ 498♥ 499♥ 500♥ 501♥ 502♥ 503♥ 504♥ 505♥ 506♥ 507♥ 508♥ 509♥ 510♥ 511♥ 512♥ 513♥ 514♥ 515♥ 516♥ 517♥ 518♥ 519♥ 520♥ 521♥ 522♥ 523♥ 524♥ 525♥ 526♥ 527♥ 528♥ 529♥ 530♥ 531♥ 532♥ 533♥ 534♥ 535♥ 536♥ 537♥ 538♥ 539♥ 540♥ 541♥ 542♥ 543♥ 544♥ 545♥ 546♥ 547♥ 548♥ 549♥ 550♥ 551♥ 552♥ 553♥ 554♥ 555♥ 556♥ 557♥ 558♥ 559♥ 560♥ 561♥ 562♥ 563♥ 564♥ 565♥ 566♥ 567♥ 568♥ 569♥ 570♥ 571♥ 572♥ 573♥ 574♥ 575♥ 576♥ 577♥ 578♥ 579♥ 580♥ 581♥ 582♥ 583♥ 584♥ 585♥ 586♥ 587♥ 588♥ 589♥ 590♥ 591♥ 592♥ 593♥ 594♥ 595♥ 596♥ 597♥ 598♥ 599♥ 600♥ 601♥ 602♥ 603♥ 604♥ 605♥ 606♥ 607♥ 608♥ 609♥ 610♥ 611♥ 612♥ 613♥ 614♥ 615♥ 616♥ 617♥ 618♥ 619♥ 620♥ 621♥ 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Paperbacks of the month

Welcome relief in the battle against racism

One of the ironies of life under Margaret Thatcher is that one of the few areas of publicly supported enterprise that is still expanding is the race relations industry. But for the many advisers, community relations workers and journalists there are few sources of historical or comparative material on which to draw. These two books in different ways are going to come as relief to those in the race business.

Peter Fryer's volume offers several nuggets of historical information, such as on the Africans who came to occupy Britain with the Roman legions nearly 2,000 years ago. Even the more familiar characters, such as the Jamaican nurse Mary Seacole, who was a heroine of the Crimean war, seem freshly revived in Mr Fryer's pen portraits.

Regrettably, Mr Fryer seems to believe that black lives are only significant when they are the object of, or battle against, racism. There must be a vein of material concerned with black culture and everyday life. The focus on instances of individual racism will certainly prick some consciences, but at the same time it will have a depressingly one-dimensional picture of black life in Britain.

For example, the author uses the term "black" to include Asians. It may be acceptable to look at all minorities as a single group when you want to discuss only their (rather similar) treatment by whites. But I think that few Asians, the roots of whose culture and identity are entirely different from those of Afro-Caribbeans, would appreciate being subsumed into a vast homogeneous lump of non-whiteness.

Another consequence of this focus on individual racism is that the book misses the opportunity to examine the most important barrier to any black or Asian seeking a place in British society: institutional or structural racism. By this I mean the body of traditional practices and cultural baggage which leaves anyone who doesn't share them out in the cold.

For example, in some workplaces it is traditional to recruit by word of mouth rather than advertising. If there are no blacks in the place to start with, they are unlikely to find out about the job. This isn't an individual problem, but it causes much black disadvantage.

Stephen Castles' book does address this topic, and though I have the same reservation as with Peter Fryer's - that these are books about the response of whites to a new minority in

Staying Power: the history of black people in Britain by Peter Fryer (Penguin, £2.95). Here For God: Western Europe's new ethnic minorities by Stephen Castles with Heather Booth and Tina Wallace (Pinto £7.50)

their midst, and not about those minorities themselves - it provides interesting comparisons with the rest of Europe.

My only concern about Castles' analysis is that it seems to lack any reference to the historical relations between the European states and their former colonies. Surely that legacy, different for each country, is vital to an understanding of the place of the new immigrant.

However, these small omissions aside, Castles' book should find a place on the shelf next to Fryer's as an important work of reference.

Trevor Phillips

From convent to Paris café life

I will not Serve by Evelyn Mayhew (Virago, £2.75); Whole days in the Trees by Marguerite Duras (Corgi/Riverman, £3.95); Sister Kate by Jean Bedford (Penguin £1.50); Wives and other Women by Norma Klein (Futura £1.95); Monsieur Guitou by Graham Greene (Penguin, £1.95); A Rustle in the Grass by Robin Hawdon (Hamlyn, £1.95)

There is a lot of boom about in recent paperbacks - and it starts young. Evelyn Mayhew's *I will not Serve*, translated by Antonia White, is about a convent schoolgirl who falls in love with her teacher, a young nun called Juliette. She is expelled for three months before taking her Baccalaureate and falls into a state of repulsive despair. "At 17 only one expulsion seems fatal: expulsion from love".

She swings from anti-exam fever to frenzied revision and then back to lethargy. The obsessive exclamations of love for Juliette sometimes ring hollow, but the picture of adolescence caught between a narrow convent education and the throbbing café life of Paris is powerfully presented.

More elaborately obsessive are the four short stories in Marguerite Duras's *Whole days in the Trees*. Sometimes close relationships are studied: a rich old woman's love for her feckless son or a girl's horror at an older woman who, she feels, "owed her unhappiness to the fact that she had exempted herself from the rather imperious law that a woman must have her body discovered" as with Peter Fryer's - that these are books about the response of whites to a new minority in

as intense. In one a concierge strikes up a friendship with the street cleaner; in another a man staying in a hotel fills his head with fantasies about a girl guest to whom he has never spoken. They are described humorously, gently and in detail.

The relationships in *Sister Kate* by Jean Bedford have to be described more harshly. This is the story of Ned Kelly's family in Australia and particularly of Kate, his beautiful sister who never shook off the horror of seeing her lover killed, her brother battered and taken away by ruffian police, and her remaining family beaten into submission.

The problems of women in New York in the 1980s seem more than manageable in comparison. Norma Klein's *Wives and other Women* is yet another saga of how middle class women can relate to their husbands, children, jobs and



Graham Greene: order and precision

other people's husbands. The complicated chronology makes it all a bit like trying to follow *Dallas* with the episodes mixed up.

It is a relief to turn to the order and precision of Graham Greene's *Monsieur Guitou*. A Roman Catholic priest who claims descent from and affinity with Cervantes' hero goes on a journey through Spain with a deposed communist mayor. They travel in an ancient car called Rocinante, falling in and out of various encounters on the way.

As they go they discuss, on the one hand, the attitudes of two great Catholic writers and, on the other, those of Lenin and Marx. It is a story about Spain and its people and a discourse too on the nature of faith.

Finally there is a novel about hope in the face of destruction. *A Rustle in the Grass* by Robin Hawdon is a fable about a colony of ants. They are in disarray because their leader is dead and their attempts to find a new one reveal antagonisms between powerful individuals and signs of rebellion among the workers.

Suddenly they are threatened by enemy ants far more powerful than themselves. Should they allow themselves to be dominated by this alien species or risk total annihilation in the defence of freedom? At the end their new leader is sitting in a burnt-out patch of the forest, blinded and withered and with his antennae shrivelled to mere stumps. "We have survived this far," he says, "I think the future is bright now."

Anne Barnes

Philosophy, Chips, and Pausanias

Non-fiction

Roget's Thesaurus edited by Susan M. Lloyd (Penguin, £2.95)

It is now nearly 180 years since Dr Peter Mark Roget, a former Secretary of the Royal Society, projected his system of verbal classification. The first edition of his Thesaurus appeared in 1852, and now, after many reprintings and revisions, Susan Lloyd has produced the first completely revised edition in 20 years, specially adapted for paperback. It is the perfect choice for the "Third Book" on Roy Plomley's desert island.

Pluto's Republic by Peter Medawar (Oxford University Press, £4.95)

I found the mixture of philosophical, scientific and medical terms and arguments in this collection of essays very hard going, but the simpler passages are lovely stuff. Sir Peter has a crack at all the disciplines in turn.

André Gide, Journals 1888-1949 translated, selected and edited by Justin O'Brien (Penguin, £6.95)

André Gide, naturalist, musician, teacher, individualist, moral philosopher, critic, artist and writer, kept a journal for 60 years. Although it was built up of snippets about everything under the sun his prose flows like a majestic river. This is his best known work. Justin O'Brien's translation strikes a happy mean between French and English idiom.

Chips. The diaries of Sir Henry Channon edited by Robert Rhodes James (Penguin, £4.95)

The prince of name-droppers, with a pathological horror of chickens, a needle eye for personal weaknesses, and a sharp and waspish appreciation of all kinds of people, scenes

and situations. A good read, but was any man ever so pleased with himself?

Pausanias. Guide to Greece, Vol II, southern Greece translated by Peter Levi (Penguin Classics, £4.95)

It is astonishing to think that Pausanias, travelling for up to 20 years in the second century AD actually visited all those places and saw their monuments. His descriptions, here so well translated, have an immediacy and freshness that many writers of modern guidebooks should try to emulate.

Companion Guide To The Loire by Richard Wade (Collins, £5.95)

A chatty and well-informed trip down the Loire from source to mouth. Richard Wade knows all the right places. Information on hotels and restaurants is minimal. He evidently thinks you should use your Michelin, and quite right too.

London. As it might have been by Felix Barker and Ralph Hyde (John Murray, £7.95)

A fascinating and wonderfully illustrated account of the projects, plans, and suppressed competition-winning designs which we might be living with now. On balance I prefer what we have got, thereby supporting the decision makers, but those old boys could certainly draw!

Mysterious America by Loren Coleman (Faber and Faber, £6.95)

This is an objective, painstaking, exhaustive and rather tedious investigation of the sightings, by wholly responsible American witnesses and other "sober gentlemen" (of course), of demons, "teleporting" animals, giant snakes, lake monsters,

A black odyssey of three generations

City children labelled with country addresses remind us of the blitz, but three-year-old Maya and her brother were escaping poverty not bombs when they were shipped like parcels, with name-tags on their wrists, to their black grandmother "Mamma" Henderson. The time was the depression, their destination Stamps in South Arkansas, a cotton and lumber town so divided by tradition and the railroad tracks that black children living there "didn't really, absolutely know" what whitefolks looked like.

However things could have been a good deal worse. "Mamma" turned out to be a devout and highly respected woman who ran the principal negro store, where the local barber cut hair on the front porch and travelling musicians played their cigar-box guitars. With its pungent smells of oranges and kerosene it became the centre of the children's lives. Here "Mamma" raised them with love, old-fashioned discipline and as much security as she could muster.

When word came that "some crazy nigger had been messing

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (Virago, £3.95)



Maya Angelou: Wry, funny and astute

with a white woman" and some of "the boys" would be coming over, she would hide her crippled son, Uncle Willie, at the bottom of the vegetable bin and cover him with potatoes and onions. "Boys!" thought Maya derisively, with their "clement faces and eyes of hate". But early on, despite the forlorn and shabby child-rape she experienced in St Louis at the hands of her mother's lodger-lover, she and her brother began to realize there was more to life than pain, segregation and the threat of lynching.

Great readers, they discovered not only their own poets - Langston Hughes and Paul Laurence Dunbar - but the Brontës, Mark Twain, Dickens and "Eap" as they called Edgar Allan Poe. Shakespeare was her "first white love" and she whitened by saying that "after all he had been dead so long it can't matter anymore".

What is arresting about this wry, funny, astute and well written autobiography is that it becomes a black odyssey of three generations: "Mamma", her free-wheeling son and his beautiful, coffee coloured wife who left home for the negro subculture of St Louis's poor, rooms and bars and, of course, intelligent, tough, intransigent Maya herself.

Finally reunited with her mother in San Francisco she experiences there her first taste of beauty and freedom. One of only three black girls at her high-school she wins, at 14, a drama and dance scholarship to the California Labor School.

We leave her a graduate, dealing rather unexpectedly with a pregnancy. However, judging by Ms. Angelou's later achievements as actress, black activist, writer and teacher of American studies at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, it would seem at the close of this first volume of her memoirs that it will not be long before the singing word of the title flies right out of its cage.

Contran Goulden and Philip Howard

Isobel Butterfield

GALLERIES



IMAGE OF THE WEEK: Edward Steichen's bride, taken in 1935 (See Flower Show)

Photography

GARDENS AND GARDENERS. Open Eye Gallery, 90-92 Whitechapel, Liverpool (051 709 9460). Until June 9, Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm

To coincide with Liverpool's International Garden Festival, Open Eye commissioned six photographers (one of whom is Martin Parr) to produce an exhibition based loosely around the theme of Merseyside gardens.

PAUL YULE/MARTIN CHAMBI. Side Gallery, 5 Side, Newcastle (0632 322248) Until June 3, Tues-Sat 11am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm

Photographs in and around Cuzco, Peru, by young photographer Paul Yule which display a remarkable sympathy with and understanding of the subject matter, Andean Indians. When in Peru Yule fell under the spell of Martin Chambi's photography. Chambi worked in Cuzco from 1920 until his death in 1973.

FLOWER SHOW. The Olympia Gallery, 24 Princes Street, London W1 (401 7591). Until June 1, Mon-Fri 10am-7pm

A tame title for what is in fact a stunning show, taking as its theme flowers within photographs and drawn from the private collection of Sam Wagstaff. The period covered is from the 1840s to the present, and the names read like a photography Who's Who: Roger Fenton (a superb fruit scene with flower bear Hugh August Sander, Edward Steichen, Paul Outerbridge

(paper flowers, tiny and gem-like, from 1926). But two of the stars must be Imogen Cunningham (an incredibly subtle portrait from 1913, redolent of the best Gwen John paintings) and Lartigue (a field of poppies which froth like a pool of active lava). Not to be missed.

BILL BRANDT: LITERARY BRITAIN. Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (583 6371). Until May 20, Mon-Thurs 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm

The V & A had originally hoped to stage a retrospective of Brandt's work as an eightieth birthday tribute to the master. But Brandt, with sad prescience, thought this unwise in case he "didn't make it": he died last December.

THE WEEK

Some eccentric pleasures

If on some enchanted evening the people of south London could step back 250 years they would find themselves surrounded by countryside. They might even run into Hogarth and his friends, arriving for an evening of gentle merry-making at the Vauxhall pleasure gardens.

A more attainable escape route from the aggravation of today's city life would be a visit to the first exhibition of English rococo art at the Victoria and Albert Museum, opening on Wednesday.

Centrepiece of the show will be a reconstruction of part of the gardens, including a number of the 200 original "supper boxes" where visitors would meet and eat as they gazed at the pastoral paintings by Hogarth's friend Frank Hayman which each boasted:

Also on view will be porcelain, silverwork, silks and memorabilia. Including Hogarth's own gold entrance ticket, given to him "in perpetuity".

"I did ask for nightingales", Michael Snodin, the exhibition organizer, says, "but I don't know whether I will get them".

The eighteenth century was an exuberant time for English art. Out of tasteful Georgian austerity sprang eccentric paintings and objects, many of which have been branded as tasteless by subsequent generations. There is the Lord Mayor's coach, which Snodin describes as "the most outrageous example of rococo in this country", and a terracotta statue of Handel by Roubiliac. This caused a sensation with its informality showing Handel in a dressing gown, with one slipper falling off.

The V & A hopes London is at last ready for a return to revelry. The show has the fleeting atmosphere of a ball - the Lord Mayor's coach must be returned in time for the Lord Mayor's Show - and there will be a constant procession of concerts, lectures and even a masquerade (eighteenth century dress optional, masks provided).

Sarah Jane Checkland

"Rococo Art and Design in Hogarth's England" is at the V & A, London SW7 (583 6371) from Wednesday until Sept 30. Weekdays 10am-5.15pm; Sun 2.30-5.15pm; closed Fri.

Openings

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION. The Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Opens May 19. Until Aug 19 10am-6pm daily

This year's selection committee has chosen 1,789 works for the summer exhibition, more than ever before. Apart from Sidney Hixley, who has produced his chrysoth (ghostly) "Girl on a Swing", everyone has done well. Even John Bratby has toned down his primary coloured palette for 6 scenes of the "Bosphorus". Look out for the fantasy and bird paintings selected by the artists Peter Blake and Craigie Aitchison, and for two sculptures of dancing figures by Allen Jones.

BECKMANN'S CARNIVAL. The Tate Gallery, Millbank London SW1 (821 1313). Opens Wed. Until July 9, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2pm-6pm

Echoing the major exhibitions in both East and West Germany, the Tate is paying tribute in a small show to the painter Max Beckmann, born 100 years ago this month. The work which is given star treatment is "Carnival", a deceptive name, since although the

figures are bright and jolly and there are all the trappings of the masquerade, the overall effect is one of tragedy. The exhibition marks the publication of the first in a set of booklets on individual paintings, on the lines of the National Gallery's successful Paintings in Focus series.

Selected

THE ORIENTALISTS. Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Until May 27, daily 10am-6pm

A chance to see the many ways in which nineteenth-century painters depicted the heady, heated atmosphere of the Near East. There are racing horses by Delacroix, men dying of thirst in the desert by Fromentin and a self-portrait in oriental costume by Holman Hunt, as well as two masterpieces by Renoir and Matisse.

JEFF WALL TRANSPARENCIES. The Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (930 2547). Until June 17, Tues-Sun noon-9pm

Giant photographic images that, like advertisements, seduce and then mystify, when you start to wonder what is actually going on. Jeff Wall is a Canadian artist



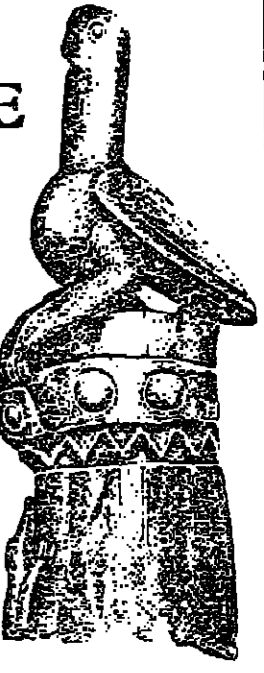
Gloves for delight: Eleanor Frances Dixie (left), was a lady of her time (Nottingham Castle Museum); and a ticket to 'The Ridotto' at Vauxhall promises enjoyment



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**The Musical Version of
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MAXPENSE ONLY 100 items will be sold. Items will be sold in the **Thurs. Box Office** on the day of performance from 10:00a. There will be limited to 2 per applicant.

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The Musical Theatre Company

SATURDAY NIGHT

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TELEVISION

THE WEEK

Gangster's girl: Shelley Duvall gets a taste of Coca Cola and guns in *Thieves Like Us*

Fresh look at the world of the hoodlum

Films on TV

One of the fascinating aspects of cinema is the way it feeds on its traditions. At the base commercial level the motive is simply to re-make past successes in the hope (usually unfulfilled) that the power of the original will help to sweep the imitation to similar success.

But there is an artistic impulse as well, as film makers of one generation draw inspiration from their predecessors and set themselves the challenge of taking established conventions and trying to rework them in a contemporary idiom.

Thus every few years in America we have a new gangster cycle, another cluster of films about the bootleg era and the bank robbers of the Depression. There is a harking back not merely to the classic gangster period but to classic gangster films.

Robert Altman's *Thieves Like Us* (BBC1 tomorrow, 10.20pm-12.15am) has a particularly complicated ancestry. In a general sense it belongs with any number of movies charting the doomed progress of the young hoodlums of the Depression years.

More immediately it can claim affinity with the crop of gangster films that emerged from the late 1960s in the wake of the extraordinary commercial and critical success of *Bonnie and Clyde*. Indeed it and *Thieves Like Us* have elements in common, both in plot and their evocation of rural America in the 1930s.

The further point about

Thieves Like Us is that Edward Anderson's novel on which it was based had already been filmed - by Nicholas Ray in 1948 under the title *They Live By Night*. Ray's film had become a much admired piece with which the Altman version was bound to be compared; and it is an axiom of the cinema that remakes are seldom as good as the original.

But Altman was in little danger of coming in a poor second. *Thieves Like Us* de-

Also recommended

Hangmen Also Die (1943): Fritz Lang's anti-Nazi tract, based on the assassination of the hated Heydrich in Czechoslovakia and co-scripted by Bertolt Brecht (Channel 4, today, 2.05-4.35pm).

Lacoste (1974): Louis Malle's masterly study of a French farmer who turns collaborator during the Second World War (BBC2, today, 9.55pm-12.10am).

Man of Aran (1934): The classic documentary by Robert J. Flaherty about the struggles of crofters and fishermen in the west of Ireland (Channel 4, tomorrow, 3.05-4.30pm).

Call Northside 777 (1948): James Cagney as a newspaperman setting out to prove a man's innocence in Henry Hathaway's documentary-style thriller, based on a true incident (Channel 4, tomorrow, 10.15pm-12.02am).

The Boy With Green Hair (1948): Joseph Losey's feature film debut, an anti-war fable with young Dean Stockwell and veteran Pat O'Brien (BBC2, Tues., 5.40-8pm).

CONCERTS

PEGASUS, CAPRICORN

Today, 7.30pm, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (028 3191, credit cards 928 8800).

The Pegasus and Capricorn ensembles combine for all kinds of rarities such as Taverner's *Funeral Rites*, Ravel's *Trois Chansons*, Goehr's *Blake Songs*, Webern's *Ständchen* and Schumann's *Four Songs* Op 33.

COMPOSERS FORUM II

Today, 7.30pm, Barbican Arts Centre, Leadenhall Hill, London WC1 (223 8413).

The Gemini ensemble's "Composers Forum" series presents three works by young composers: James Erber's *Working Together*, Arvid Anderson's *Under Pressure* and Ross Lorraine's *Prodigal Daughter*.

AREN'T WE ALL

A comedy by Frederick Lonsdale. Today, 7.30pm, South Bank, London SE1 (028 3191, credit cards 928 8800).

THE YAMING OF THE SHREWS

Every Tuesday, 7.30pm, South Bank, London SE1 (028 3191, credit cards 928 8800).

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ROYAL EXCHANGE

Tomorrow, 11.30am, Wigmore Hall, 35, Langham Place, London W1 (935 2141, credit cards 930 9232).

The Musicians of the Royal Exchange celebrate the Smetana centenary with the *Bartok Bridge* overture in his own piano duo.

Ode to Death and *Lyric Movement*, Richard and Johann Strauss. He also plays Beethoven's 32 C minor Variations, Ravel's *Miroirs* and Liszt group including the little-known *Walse Melancolique*.

KATHRYN LUKAS

Tomorrow, 7.30pm, British Music Information Centre, 10, Stratford Place, London W1 (499 8587).

Kathryn Lukas (flute) performs pieces by young Dartington composers: Paul Beuchamp, Pat Buttery, Mick Gordon, Nicholas Turnbull, Mike Vaughan, Dave Holland and Jim Lawrence. Admission free.

NASH ENSEMBLE

Tomorrow, 7.15pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall.

More Smetana, this time with the Nash Ensemble performing the *Fish Boy*, *Evening Songs*, *Reves*, *From My Homeland*, *Macbeth* and *The Witches* and the great Piano Trio in G minor.

ESTERHAZY SINGERS AND PLAYERS

Mon, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall.

The Esterhazy Singers and Players interpret *God's Song*, Holst's *Ode to Death* and *Lyric Movement*, Richard and Johann Strauss. He also plays Beethoven's 32 C minor Variations, Ravel's *Miroirs* and Liszt group including the little-known *Walse Melancolique*.

ROUGIERO RICCI

Wed, 7.45pm, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (828 8795, credit cards 838 2881).

The virtuoso violinist Ruggero Ricci performs Mendelssohn's E minor Concerto with the Hallé Orchestra, and James Loughran also conducts Elgar's Symphony No 1.

PAUL ROBERTS

Tues, 7.30pm, Purcell Room.

Paul Roberts continues his series devoted to all Debussy's mature piano works with the 24 infinitely varied *Préludes*.

DURKO

Tues, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall.

The Capricorn ensemble gives the British premiere of Durko's *Winter Music*, adding to it Janáček's *Concerto* and Mozart's superb Quintet K 452 for piano and wind instruments.

MARTIN JONES

Tues, 7.30pm, St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (222 1661).

In an essay to understand why Godowsky's handsomely difficult piano transcriptions are so little heard, but Martin Jones bravely takes on five of them, based on Chopin, Schubert, Saint-Saëns, Richard and Johann Strauss. He also plays Beethoven's 32 C minor Variations, Ravel's *Miroirs* and Liszt group including the little-known *Walse Melancolique*.

LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS

Thurs, 7.30pm, Royal Northern College of Music, 120, Oxford Road, Manchester M1 (273 4534).

Peter Fletcher conducts the Leicestershire Schools' Symphony Orchestra in Elliott Carter's little-known *Paganini*, Dalmatopoli's *Marsie* and *Phaenomena*, and new works by Robert Eawden and Douglas Young.

FIRES OF LONDON

Thurs, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall.

P. Maxwell Davies conducts the Fires of London in the London premiere of his *Yellow Cake*. Apparently this is about uranium mining in the Orkneys. Gunter Schenk conducts Davies's *Vesali* *Icons*.

COMPOSERS FORUM II

Thurs, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall.

The Gemini ensemble's "Composers Forum" series presents three works by London composers: James Erber's *Working Together*, Arvid Anderson's *Under Pressure* and Ross Lorraine's *Prodigal Daughter*.

THE WEEK

Sport

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: With zonal games today, Tues and Thurs, cricket's one-day 55-overs competition should take decisive shape this week. Middlesex, the holders, crashed to Kent in their opening match but are still more than strong enough on paper to retain the title. One of Thursday's matches is being televised, BBC1 from 10.55am, switching to BBC2 at 12.30pm.

THE LONDON MARATHON '84: The 20,000 runners set off from Blackheath tomorrow morning and make their way along the streets of the capital to the finish on Westminster Bridge 26 miles later. The entrants range from Olympic hopes to those for whom completing the course will be an achievement enough. For the first time television is covering the whole race live, BBC1, from 9.05am. And there are highlights on BBC1, 7.15-8pm.

BATTLING BRUNO: The British heavyweight boxing hope, Frank Bruno, meets a huge 6ft 4in, 15½-stone American, James "Bonescrusher" Smith, at Wembley Arena tomorrow night. Bruno has won all his fights within the distance but many of them against second-rate opponents. Smith, who has had a string of nine consecutive victories, may prove to be sterner stuff. The weigh-in is on



Ready for the show: the Punch and Judy man (see Other events)

BBC2 in Sunday Grandstand, from 1.55pm; and a recording of the fight itself is on BBC1 on Mon, 9.25-10.05pm.

RACING FROM YORK: The May Meeting takes place on Tues, Wed and Thurs and has attracted its usual high-quality entry. Highlights are the Mudders Stakes (Tues, 3.40pm), which has a habit of producing good fillies for the classics; the Mecca-Dante Stakes (Wed, 3.10pm) for three-year-old colts, which could provide Derby pointers; and the Yorkshire Cup (Thurs, 3.10pm). There is television coverage of all three days on Channel 4, 2.30-4pm.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP: Juventus of Italy and FC Porto of Portugal meet in the final at Basle on Wed. There is a British interest, if only indirectly, since these are the teams that put out Manchester United's Aberdeen, respectively, in the semi-finals. Highlights of the match are on Sportsnight, BBC1, 9.55pm.

Festivals

NEWBURY SPRING FESTIVAL: A touch of culture comes to the downland town in the days running up to Newbury races next weekend. Music, central to the festival, was the reason behind its beginning six years ago as no professional concerts were given in Newbury. This year Paul Tortelier and his daughter Maria de la Pau have been invited to the annual oasis of the arts. They give a concert of works by Beethoven, Faure and Grieg on Mon. Tortelier plays again on Wed - this time Vivaldi's Cello Concerto, accompanied by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Apart from music, Janet Smith and her contemporary dance company perform new works, *The Merchant of Venice* plays at the Watermill Theatre and a loan exhibition of drawings and watercolours from local country houses includes works by Turner, Constable, Colman and the Prince of Wales. Details from The Festival Booking Office, The Granary, The Wharf, Newbury, Berkshire (0635 49919).

JERMYN STREET FESTIVAL: Traders in Jermyn Street, London SW1, take part in a week of special events and exhibitions, all on a sporting theme. There is also a programme of concerts in St James's Church. The festival starts on Mon. Details can be obtained from the kiosk in front of St James's Church or by telephoning 01-499 9566.



Hot tips: Alphabetism, a good bet for the Derby, whose odds could shorten even more if it wins today's Lingfield Derby trial; and Mike Gattin, captain of Middlesex, who are fancied to retain the Benson and Hedges Cup this season (see Sport)



Auctions

BRACKNELL LITERATURE FESTIVAL: Elizabeth Jane Howard, Maggie Gee, Maureen Duffy and Tony Harrison all take part in an event which kicks off Bracknell's summer of weekend festivals this weekend. South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell, Berkshire (0344 427272). Ends tomorrow.

MALVERN FRINGE: The programme, starting a week before the main festival, almost bursts with drama, jazz, music, dance, poetry and a special mini-festival of local theatre. Malvern Fringe Arts, Tourist Information Office, Grange Road, Great Malvern, Worcestershire (06845 4700). Today until June 2.

Other festivals include: Brighton Festival, Marlborough House, 54 Old Stairs, Brighton (0273 682127) ends May 20; Glasgow Mayfest, 7 Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow (041 334 3450) ends May 19; Perth Festival of the Arts, Perth Tourist Association, The Round House, Marshall Place, Perth (0738 22800) from Wed until May 27.

LATE VICTORIAN DRAWINGS: The mounting interest in watercolours of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is reflected by the sale at Christie's on Tues. They strike a pastoral note, with a ravishing roundel by Lord Leighton of a boy saving a baby from an eagle in the corner of a cornfield, sunny farm scenes from the brush of Helen Allingham, and Myles Birket Foster watching horses watered before a country inn. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060); at 11am and 2.30pm.

GREAT SCULPTURE: While Renaissance bronzes fetch a thousand or so at auction, paintings of the same era fetch millions. A few collectors are beginning to realize this anomaly. But prices have a long way to go as is illustrated by the fascinating sale at Christie's on Tues. There is a seventeenth-century bronze statuette of Jupiter, which must be the work of a follower of

Glimborgna, perhaps from as far north as Austria; while a sixteenth-century Venetian bronze oil lamp is made up of figures built on figures. It once belonged to Earl Fitzwilliam of Wentworth Woodhouse. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060) at 11am.

TURKISH DELIGHT: A portrait of a Turkish noble smoking a pipe by Jean-Etienne Liotard, is the star lot in a sale of Old Master paintings on Tues. Works by Liotard are a rarity - this one was discovered creased among some papers. The delicately coloured pastel drawing is estimated at £30,000. The 73-lot sale includes works by Hubert Robert and Guido Reni - prices start at £1,000. Phillips, 7 Blenheim Street, London W1 (629 6802) at 11am.

PEWTER FINDS: The big auction houses are becoming very strict about selling art and artefacts only when they are valuable. It is so happens that pewter is a base metal and most early pewterware is not expensive. Sothby's have dismissed a good pewter sale to

their "last" sale network and there should be bargains here on Thurs for the knowing collector. They are hoping to get £1,500-2,000 for a large pair of pricket candlesticks, dated to the sixteenth century, but most lots are estimated at less than £100. Sothby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1 (493-8080); 11am and 2.30pm.

Radio

DELME STRING QUARTET: Today's radio features the first performance of Quartet No 3 by Sebastian Forbes, commissioned by the BBC. Forbes, 43 this month, is a former BBC music producer and one of the Acoustic Singers who has had previous commissions performed at the Proms and the Edinburgh Festival. The programme opens with the Quartet in D by Mozart. Radio 3, 1.05-2pm.

VIKINGS AT YORK: In 1978 York Archaeological Trust started excavating under the foundations of a demolished sweet factory and

uncovered the remains of Jorvik, the 1,000-year-old city that was capital of the northern kingdom of the Vikings. This programme looks at the background to the discovery and the creation of the Jorvik Village Centre which Prince Charles will inaugurate on Thurs, Radio 4, today, 10.15-11pm.

SWEET DREAMS: The pioneer feminist Marie Stopes is the subject of actor Richard Kane's first play for radio, originally produced at the King's Head in London. The play charts the curious love-affair-by-letter between Stopes (Janet Lee) and a Japanese professor (played by Kane himself). Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.30pm.

THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS: The story of the Society of Authors, formed 100 years ago with the novelist and historian Walter Besant as chairman and Alfred Lord Tennyson as president. Attacked at the time for encouraging strikes and setting authors against publishers, the society has continued to engage in controversy, more recently over issues like public lending right. Radio 4, Tues, 4-4.40pm.

PLATO TO MACHO: A seven-part introduction to the great political thinkers from ancient Greece to the present day, presented by Brian Redhead. The first six programmes each deal with a pair of philosophers, while the seventh will cover a group of moderns. In the first of the series Dr Christopher Rowe of Bristol University talks about Plato, and Peter Nicholson of York University about Aristotle. Radio 4, Fri, 4.10-4.40pm.

Other events

AFRICA, AFRICA: From now until the end of the year London is paying greater attention to the African continent than ever before in a series of events organized by the Commonwealth Institute in association with the Africa Centre. There are films, music, exhibitions, book displays, dances and drama, debates and discussions. Details from the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (603 4535).

NATIONAL BIKE WEEK '84: Runs from today until May 19 and is being promoted to extend the benefits of cycling as a quick and efficient means of transport in urban areas and as one of the best forms of physical exercise. Special events are being staged in several

towns. Details from: Cycle Campaign Network, Three House, 3 Stamford Street, London SE1 (928 7220).

COVENT GARDEN PUNCH & JUDY FESTIVAL: The festival starts with a service in St Paul's church in which a puppet will assist with the sermon, preached by the Reverend John Arrowsmith. Many different Punch & Judy shows, stalls and other puppets throughout the afternoon. The Plaza, Covent Garden, London WC2 from 11.30am.

POETS OF THE 1980s: A series of meetings at the National Poetry Centre starts on Thurs when Professor A. Norman Jeffares introduces his new commentary on W. B. Yeats. National Poetry Centre, 21 Earl's Court Square, London SW5 (373 7861). All meetings start at 7.30pm, tickets £1.99 (concessions, students and unemployed £1).

RIBA OPEN HOUSE: As part of the 1984 Festival of Architecture, the Royal Institute of British Architects is throwing its elegant building open to the public between May 19 and 25. Among the special attractions are an exhibition (which continues until June 8) called "Star Choices" highlighting the architectural and design tastes of celebrities such as Lord Carrington, Adam Ant, David Hockney and Zandra Rhodes. RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1 (580 5533).



Being considered: Yeats at the National Poetry Centre (see Other events)

THEATRE

Romance brings the best out of O'Toole

George Bernard Shaw has been having a good run in recent months in the London theatre. The National Theatre presented *St Joan*, and Peter O'Toole starred in *Man and Superman* at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket. Now the Theatre of Comedy company, quickly switching from the farce of *Run for your Wife* at the Criterion, is to present *Pygmalion*.

Ray Cooney, founding father of the Theatre of Comedy, and more used to farce (he is the author of *Run for your Wife*), is the director of *Pygmalion*, in which Peter O'Toole continues his progress in Shaw parts as Professor Higgins.

When O'Toole heard that *Pygmalion* was to be revived he telephoned Ray Cooney and asked politely if he might be considered for Higgins. He was promptly invited to join the cast. He suggested Jackie Smith-Wood, who had acted with him in *Man and Superman*, for the part of Eliza. Done and done.

John Thaw, who has been playing with the Royal Shakespeare Company, takes the role of Alfred Doolittle. Jack Watling is Pickering and Joyce Carey is Mrs Higgins.

Peter O'Toole probably knows the play better than most, having played Doolittle and Freddie Eynsford-Hill in

the past, but this will be his first attempt at Higgins.

Ray Cooney says of O'Toole: "He adores the play and has always wanted to play Higgins, and he knows his Shaw very well. I don't know Shaw very well. I saw the movie of *Pygmalion* with Leslie Howard but I have no preconceived ideas and read it as a brand new play."

As a writer, Cooney greatly admires the work and says that the more he has worked on it, the more he finds "in my plays I try to make the audience laugh, whereas in *Pygmalion* they are moved to laughter. In my plays the situation is the bell-and-end-all, with the characters established early on and not changing. In *Pygmalion* the characters change and develop, and it has a marvellous structure."

He says he has not tried to impose his views on the play but, because he fears the O'Toole temperament. Rather he wants to try to draw out what Shaw intended, though he admits it is a "popular" production.

"It is a wonderfully romantic play and I want to bring out the romanticism, the Cinderella side. And the relationships are very interesting - not only between Higgins and Eliza, but



Shaw touch: Jack Watling, Joyce Carey and Peter O'Toole in *Pygmalion*

between Higgins and his mother, and between Pickering and Mrs Pearce.

"I want to make it possible to believe that Eliza would go off with Freddie, but I believe the audience knows what it wants - the reconciliation between Eliza and Higgins", Cooney says. Despite his protestations that he is letting the play speak its meaning, it seems that the director is steering the production, if necessary, in the direction he as a writer - would wish it to go.

As for the O'Toole temperament, Cooney says there has been no problem. "I have never known an actor work so hard, and I have a theory that the reason why some actors have a reputation for being difficult is because the people around them are nervous. Everyone round him here is so good and he feels secure. It is a very jolly occasion."

Previewing at the Leicester Haymarket, the play is reported to have been well received. Audiences almost certainly

know the story largely from *My Fair Lady*. It is to be hoped that the occasion does not become so jolly that cast and audience join spontaneously in a rousing chorus of "Wouldn't it be lovely" - though the Theatre of Comedy could probably just about get away with it.

Christopher Warman

Pygmalion, Shaftesbury Theatre (836 6596). Previews today at 3pm and 8.30pm, Mon at 8pm. Opens Tues at 7pm.

Some early Hitchcock dusted off

Recent months may have seen *Vertigo*, *Rear Window*, and other Hitchcock classics restored to circulation after years in limbo, but the master's career still contains cobwebbed corners. No one knows the whereabouts of *The Pleasure Garden*, the first of his 53 feature films, shot in Munich in 1925. Prints of subsequent British films, all reasonably well preserved, fly around the world from one film museum to another, but rarely reach the general public.

Hitchcock himself possibly deflected interest by his own low opinion of his early career, expressed in an interview with François Truffaut: "I did what I could... probably the lowest ebb in my output... a very banal picture". Hitch's words, as usual, are to be taken with a large pinch of salt; visitors to London's Everyman Cinema will find the forthcoming venue for 10 early Hitchcocks - should find the films of constant vitality, and great historical interest.

The core of the Everyman season consists of films made for British International Pictures (BIP) between 1927 and 1932, enterprisingly re-released in new prints by EMI Classics. *Blackmail*, Britain's first talkie, is the best-known title (May 19 and 24). Others include the living triangular drama *The Ring* (May 20 and 23); Hitchcock's first, eloquent silent film *The Manxman*, full of stark scenery and hidden passions (Fri and May 23); and the quirky *Rich and Strange*, in which a suburban marriage becomes sorely tested during a world cruise (Fri and May 24). Three later British films, *The Lady Vanishes* (May 19), *The 39 Steps* (May 20), and *Saboteur* (May 22), are also featured.

Hitchcock enjoyed a curious position at BIP, the largest British studio of the period, run on Hollywood factory lines by John Maxwell, a former Glasgow solicitor with a keen appreciation of money. Hitch was poached from the rival Gainsborough studio after the success of *The Lodger* in 1927, but the BIP chiefs gave him little room to manoeuvre and handed down uncongenial properties.

Lesser directors would have trudged through the assign-



Testing time: Henry Kendall and Joan Barry put pressure on marriage in *Rich and Strange*

Openings

MEEM MY HAWK (15): Peter Ustinov's first film as director, 1972; a muddled mixture of satire and folk epic, shot in Yugoslavia, drawn from a revered Turkish novel. Royal Gala Premiere on Thurs at 8.15. Opens Tues at ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (836 8881).

AMITYVILLE 3-D (15): Further adventures of a famous haunted house, first introduced in the 1971 film *The Amityville Horror*. Items thrown at us via 3-D photography include furniture, a swarm of flies and a frigate. Opens Fri at Classic Oxford Street (635 0310), ABC Fulham Road (270 3110), ABC Edgware Road (723 5901), ABC Bayswater (229 4149).

GREGORIO CORTES (15): Cortes left for the Mexican border in 1980 after killing a sheriff in self-defence, this attractive, offbeat western quietly investigates the legend and the facts. Opens Fri at the Electric Screen (224 3694).

VALENTINE (15): The adventures and fantasies of a woman ticket-seller at a Manhattan porno cinema. A first, acclaimed venture into fiction from two independent New York film-makers, director Bette Gordon and producer Renée Stratinsky; co-written by Kathy Acker. Opens Fri at Screen on the Green (226 3520).

Geoff Brown

"Hitchcock - The Early Years" is at the Everyman Cinema, Holly Bush Lane, London NW5 (485 1523) from Fri to May 24. *Lord Camber's Ladies* forms part of two Gerald du Maurier double-bills tomorrow and on May 20.

The film style may be unpolished, but the material and production context are fascinating; this drama about a young man sent to Manhattan to assassinate an enemy of the Khomeini regime was made by Iranians exiled in America.

RUE CASES-NEGRES (PG): Chelsea Cinema (351 3742). Few current films offer as much human warmth as this captivating first feature by the West Indian director Euzhan Palcy, describing the life of sugar plantation workers in a Martinique shanty town. Marvellous natural performance from cast with only two professionals (Darling Legitimista Doute Seck); delicious sepia-toned photography; joyous music; the attractions are endless.

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes of cinema listings are listed on the telephone numbers given.

Openings

AREN'T WE ALL? (15): Claudette Colbert and Michael Gough are joined by Michael Gough in this revival of Frederick Lonsdale's comedy, written in 1923, revived in 1953 at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, where its production is to open in June. Clifford Williams directs, with Nicola Pagett, Madge Ryan, Francis Matthews.

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE (21 226 4458): Opens Mon at 7.30pm until June 9, Mon to Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm; matinees Thurs at 2.30pm and Sat at 4pm.

GHOSTS: Caroline Eves directs Michael Meyer's translation of Ibsen's play about the interrelationship of the past, present and future. New Shaw Theatre Company, with Lynn Farleigh as Mrs Alving, Bill Simpson as Pastor Regina, Lysette Anthony as Madge, Bob Mason as Engelund. Shaw Theatre (838 1394). Previews on Mon and Tues at 7.30pm, opens Wed at 7.30pm; matinees Sat at 2.30pm. An interpreter/interpreter for deaf audiences will be present on May 22 at 7.30pm, May 26 at 2.30pm.

Out of Town

BRISTOL: Old Vic, Theatre Royal (0272 24348). Fred Kamo's Army by Tony Stavros. Until June 2, Mon-Wed at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs (not May 31) at 3pm, Sat at 4pm. Previewers run of "music hall play" using contemporary songs and sketches, newsreel and film to tell the story of the comedian whose troupe included Chaplin and Stan Laurel and which later developed into the Crazy Gang. Not suitable for children. Directed by John David.

CARDIFF: Chapter (0222 396061) House. Preview Tues at 7.30pm, opens Wed at 7.30pm, until May 23, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm. The Chapter's contribution to the Fairground '84 festival at the Micky Theatre, Amsterdam is a

collaboration by members of Lumiere and Son, Cardiff Laboratory. Fourplay Theatre, Design for Living and Chris Jordan (formerly with Pip Simmons). Comedy, political comment, music and fantasy.

CHICHESTER: Festival Theatre (0243 781312). Forty Years On by World premiere run of "music hall play" using contemporary songs and sketches, newsreel and film to tell the story of the comedian whose troupe included Chaplin and Stan Laurel and which later developed into the Crazy Gang. Not suitable for children. Directed by John David.

OLDHAM: Coliseum (061 624 2829). Feminine Pleasures by Mike Stott. Preview today at 7.30pm, opens at 7.30pm, until June 2, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm. New comedy (unsuitable for

children) by the author of *Funny Peculiar*, set at a moorland hotel near Oldham.

PITLOCHRY: Festival Theatre (0786 2680). On the Razzle by Tom Stoppard. Today and Fri at 8pm, Wed at 2pm. In repertory with Hedda Gabler (Today at 2pm, Thurs at 8pm) and Scotland the Brave (Sun-Wed at 8pm).

SCARBOROUGH: Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (0723 370541). A Chorus of Disapproval by Alan Ayckbourn. Today and Tues-Fri 7.30pm. In repertory A new play in its first public run; a recently widowed man joins a local light-operative society and soon begins an affair with a fellow-member. The production of The

Beggar's Opera does not go according to plan. Ayckbourn directs, with Paul Todd (also in the cast) as musical director.

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 256223). The Merchant of Venice. (Today and Mon, Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. New production, directed by John Caird, with Ian McKinnon as Shylock, Adam Barnham as Bassanio, Frances Tomelty as Portia.

Henry V. Today and Thurs at 1.30pm, Tues and Wed at 7.30pm. In repertory Kenneth Branagh leads in the first new production of the play. Stratford since 1977. Adrian Noble directs a cast including Sebastian Shaw, Harold Innocent, Brian Blessed, Patricia Routledge. The Other Place (0789 256223). Romeo and Juliet. Wed at 7.30pm. In repertory

New production (toured by the company last winter) with Simon Templeton and Amanda Root in the title roles. John Caird directs. Camille by Pam Gems. Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Premiere production, directed by Ron Daniels, based on *Le Dernier des Français* by Alexandre Dumas. Frances Barber, Nicholas Farrell, Anthonie Manneville. Music by Liszt.

WOLVENEY: The Pit (0275 638 8891). Today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory with *Life's a Dream* by Calderon de la Barca (Wed-Fri at 7.30pm). Beautifully deadly, measured revival of Jonson's satire on greed and gullibility, with Richard Griffiths and Miles Anderson outsmarting an outrageously funny Gemma Jones and a fine gallery of grotesques.

Sport and radio: Peter Waymark; Festivals: Louise Nicholson; Auctions: Geraldine Norman; Theatre: Anthony Masters and Lying Wardle; Films: Geoff Brown

Selected

AND THE SHIP SAILS ON (15): Academy One, Oxford Street (457 2981). All aboard the SS Federico Fellini for a symbolic ocean trip in the summer of 1914, with an assorted company of opera singers, politicians, Serbian peasants and anarchists, and one smelly rhinoceros. Parry brilliant, party lame and strained. Freddie Jones heads a populus. British-favoured cast.

DANIEL TAKES A TRAIN (18): Gainsborough (221 0220/727 6705). Director Paul Sanjour presents a gripping, multi-layered portrait of Hungary in December 1956, when old allegiances (to family, to country, to the Party) are cruelly tested. Atmospheric photography; resonant performances by Peter

Rudolf and Sándor Zsotör as two young men heading towards the Austrian border.

THE DEAD ZONE (18): ABC Bayswater (229 4149). ABC Edgware Road (723 5901). ABC Fulham Road (270 3110). ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (836 8881).

Classic Haymarket (838 1527): Classic Oxford Street (635 0310) and on national release. Canadian director David Cronenberg forgoes his usual gory shocks for the absorbing version of Stephen King's horror novel (Walker) emerging from a five-year coma with second sight. Cohesion is damaged by the plot's wild leaps into politics, but performances are well judged.

THE MISSION (PG): Academy 3, Oxford Street (437 8819).

THE ARTS

The musical is usually just an end-of-season romp. Sheridan Morley talks to a director who believes it should be more than that

Serious Judge of musicals

The current avalanche of Broadway musical nostalgia, from *Gypsy* and *Dolls* and *On Your Feet* all the way through to *Little Me* and *West Side Story*, may not say a great deal for the current health of the new British musical, but it at least seems as good a time as any to meet the director Ian Judge, a one-man musical academy currently represented by *Peep in the West End* and the forthcoming Gloucester revival of *Oh Kay!* For Mr Judge takes the view that the American musical should be as carefully taught as *Concubine* in drama schools.

"Far too many regional theatre directors still think of the musical as an end-of-season romp to be taken lightly; to face the moment an actor understands how to do a musical is liberating him for everything else," says Judge. "Directors like Terry Hands and Trevor Nunn do a musical, there's still this ludicrous critical and public belief that they're somehow slumming, or else just having a little holiday from their 'real' work. Only in America is the musical taken seriously, but the irony is that we can't do big-band shows as well if not better than they can on Broadway."

Though he spent five years working with the Royal Shakespeare Company as Terry Hands's assistant on the classic Alan Howard history cycle of the late 1970s,

Judge actually made his name a year ago at the Guildhall with the first British production of Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along*, the culmination of a lot of dramatic work on American musicals. Now in his middle thirties, an adopted child brought up in a Lancashire sweet and tobacco shop, Judge started out at a grammar school in Southport where his Viola is still spoken of in hushed tones. "Everyone told me to avoid the theatre, except my adoptive parents, who were marvellous and took me to Stratford every summer and the Manchester pantomime every Christmas. They also built me a model theatre in the spare room, and I used to advertise its performances on a board in the sweet shop. Still, I began to believe that all the neighbours were right and the theatre was no place to make a living, so I started off in Southport designing windows displayed by day and playing with the local amateurs by night. Then I decided that I had my life the wrong way round, so I got into the Guildhall at 23 and by the time I left I'd directed five shows."

From there I got into the Worthing Rep as an actor, did a lot of bits in television

comedies and auditioned five times for the RSC, always unsuccessfully. At the time of the fifth audition I was playing a rabbit in a Christmas season of *Winnie the Pooh* in London and directing a Wagner opera at the town hall in Watford. Terry Hands said my career seemed to be in some disarray and that I'd better get myself organized; so he took me in as his assistant and threw me straight in at the deep end, directing all the French scenes in *Henry V*. In *Henry V* I did the Shallow-Silence scenes, and I think by then I knew I was going to be a director.

"Those five years at the RSC with Alan Howard were a marvellous time, because the people working on that history cycle formed a separate company within the company. Then they let me direct the first-ever Stratford pantomime, *Swan Down Gorge*, and a *Hamlet* on tour with Charlotte Cornwell, but then suddenly the company seemed to be in the hands of a lot of bright young men from the studio theatres who didn't see jokes even by appointment, and who weren't altogether in tune with my devotion to pantomimes and big musicals. So I decided the time had come for me and the RSC to part."

That was when Judge started the sequence of student musicals at LAMDA and the Guildhall, evergreening *Happy End* and *The Beggar's Opera* all the way through to *Bye Bye Birdie* and *How to Succeed in Business*. When, therefore, Stephen Sondheim wrote his classic and still hugely underrated *Merrily We Roll Along*, a musical not only about but also conceived entirely for a cast of students, Judge was the obvious man to stage it in Britain - though Sondheim is still refusing it a professional London licence because of some work he wants to do on the score.

"After that the RSC asked me back to work on the transfer of *Poppy* to the West End, and by that time both the big classical companies seemed to have at last discovered musicals, which is not surprising considering that Shakespeare and Cole Porter have a lot in common. I've never really seen a tremendous difference between a soliloquy and a solo number."

For *Peep* (which opened last month at the Phoenix) Judge has brought over from Broadway one of the original stars of *Merrily We Roll Along*, Ann Morrison. "This was an old romantic comedy that

Laurette Taylor kept touring around America, and because it was written as a valentine to her by her husband Hardy Manners it was full of weird things like her favourite dog, Bun now David Heneker has done a marvellous period score and we've moved the date forward to 1913, because I wanted this to say something about the end of an era and the eruption of Americans into European lives. I didn't want another sentimental piece."

From *Peep*, Mr Judge moved on to the Ned Sherrin adaptation of the Gershwin-Wodehouse *Oh Kay!*, which opens at Chichester on May 17 with Jane Carr in the role that first established Gertrude Lawrence in musical comedy.

"I've always wanted to do a musical that would fill that Chichester space, and this one is perhaps the best of all the Gershwin scores - *Somerset to Watch Over Me*, *Chaplin's Hands*, *Do Do Do*. The problem was casting: there are very few artists capable of looking up dancers around and nowads. At the moment, and I suppose because of the unexpected success of *Merrily*, I seem to be the flavour of the month, though I'm well aware that could easily change. All I can do is remember Terry Hands telling me to make sure I kept good company; in whatever I did, the companies at the Phoenix and Chichester seem to me pretty good."

Television

Sex Matters (Channel 4) began with a sense of what used to be called 'heavy going', that it seems, is where all the troubles start - certainly this was true for Yorkshire Television, since more intimate sequences involving the same couple have now been dropped from the series at the insistence of the IBA. This first episode was in fact originally meant to be the second, but perhaps the filmmakers wanted to get to the climax sooner.

Last night's programme, *Couples*, was concerned with the problems of 'satisfying each other's sexual needs', one pair discussed the difficulties involved in 'arousing' one another, while another talked about the joys of sex after a heart-attack. It was all less than fascinating, since people describing their sex lives are in the same position as those describing their dreams: the subject is interesting to them, but not to anyone else.

The other problem was that most humans, when asked to describe their private feelings will use an impersonal vocabulary - and one heavily influenced by the more modest or cant terms; in this case, 'commitment', 'openness', 'interpretation' and 'caring' were high on the list. As a result, the experience itself was rendered stale and over-familiar.

Such an attitude also tends to invest everything with a terrible seriousness (one couple even drew up an agreement in writing, with various clauses attached), since half the interest in sex is based upon its comic possibilities, without comedy one is left only with the dreary recital of rather predictable feelings. What was most surprising, however, was the fact that the couple involved seemed quite ready to reveal almost everything about themselves without any apparent difficulty or even embarrassment.

Peter Ackroyd

Theatre

Fulfilment of a grand project

Othello

The Young Vic

One thing is certain: the *Young Vic* has put its days of lightweight, or simply dutiful, Shakespeare production firmly behind it. Its new director, David Thacker, flings down the gauntlet with this unashamedly political modern-dress *Othello*, which feels like the fulfilment of a long-pondered project.

"Iago's invasion of Othello's 'tranquil mind' is a triumph of imperialism," that programme note puts it at its worst, but in this world of smooth staff-officers in khaki there is no problem about Iago's discontent: losing out in a glass-rudder production structure where Othello is only tolerated out of national necessity, and even believing "the legend of the negro's sexual danger" that Othello has seduced his wife. The ruddy, balding David Calder, significantly older than the original

Panic

Royal National Theatre

It is Sweet Fanny's birthday, and the scattered family are returning to the nest - a crumbling cottage overlooking a cliff edge. The grandpapa, two decompensating dollys, a dandy there and one shaggy dog, Mum (Val Maitland) who greets them affectionately, finds her stuffed animals, and sees the unlikely scene for as in a brief, Gordian knot.

Next, the scene is Dad, a one-legged, pot-smoking chimney sweep, and his two sons,

28, is not so much "honest" Iago's honest-to-goodness: cheerful, tactful, indispensable; no-one suspects what lies inside. Mr Calder's natural, easy way with the words is shared by the whole cast; you could be watching a nastily convincing TV play about mess-rooms in Northern Ireland. The problems come when Rudolph Walker faces Othello's big tragic and poetic flights. In any case, how much is his self-doubt which Iago plays, rooted merely in his blackness?

And while Brian Protheroe's complacent aristocrat Cassio is superbly played, the production demands that the "daily beauty in his life" simply amounts to privilege and that his final recovery of rank is undeserved.

In short, I feel that Mr Thacker's immense intelligence constantly comes crashing against the limitations of his own scheme. It cramps the actors too, but in *Play for Today* terms many are wholly convincing.

Jack the Lad who keeps the family supplied with indescribable varieties of meat from his abattoir job, and Rat who has struck it rich on the pop market; and the morose birthday girl herself, who is raped by a masked postman delivering her cards. There is also an uninvited guest, from those shaggy flanks and unveiled genitalia the play takes its title.

Thanks to the Court's later opening times, I missed the ending of Alan Brown's three-hour play, but from the climactic descent of Asphodel cottage into a friendly sea and the return of the castrated Pan,



Limitations of scheme: Kate Fahy as Desdemona to Rudolph Walker's Othello

ing a pompous stiff-collared Brabantio (Hugh Sullivan), a lounge-lizard Rodrigo (Stephen Hartford), Kate Fahy's gaunt and gritty Desdemona, and a brow Emilia (Alison Peebles) as sharp and salty as Scottish porridge. At their best,

the great Walker-Calder scenes have a tautness and intimacy which remind you that Shakespeare, everything else apart, was a great television playwright before his time.

Anthony Masters

from crediting these supposed idiots with an intimate familiarity with high culture. Dad hops back home with a first edition of *Leviathan*, and when the cottage falls into the sea it promptly puts paid to Hobbes's monster. It is hard to distinguish patronage from challenge with tricks like that; but the result sustains a level of violent incoherence such as I have seldom experienced. David Frier's Blake-quoting Pan, and Ken Sharrock's Jack are among those who come best to grips with these flesh-and-blood dolls.

Irving Wardle

Concert

LPO/Tennstedt

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Someone once said that you could start listening to a Bruckner symphony, go for a walk, come back, and find the same music playing on your return. Not so with the Seventh, and never, yet, with Klaus Tennstedt.

The longer themes, the better digested rhythms help; the logic is as strong, yet somehow freshened by green, E major harmonic climate. Or so Tennstedt would have had us believe on Thursday night.

It seems perhaps ungenerous to waver at all in one's admiration for a performance which included things like the remarkable carving, deeper and deeper, of the bass line supporting the slow movement's Wagner memorial, and then the wonderful *déjà vu* framing and distancing of that same theme which Tennstedt found in the finale's retrospective string threnody.

What I missed, though, was simply a sense of receptivity. In this symphony, particularly, a dimension is missed when the music is held in such an unrelentingly tight grasp. Where a all is intense overt activity, the compelling mantra-like effect of Bruckner's rhythmic patterning may excite all the more, but their resonance is limited to space instead of seeming, as it can, to control time itself.

No such problems in the first half of an evening sponsored once again by the Prudential. Indeed, the choice of Walton's *Comedy Overture*, *Scapino*, and Haydn's young C Major Cello Concerto played wittily by Heinrich Schiff, had that rare and right effect of sharpening, without either dulling or, quite satisfying, the appetite of ear and sensibility.

Hilary Finch

Radio

Length on line

In our society, if it becomes technically possible to do something, the chances are that somebody will do it, frequently in total disregard of the fact that what is achieved by this latest marvel is not worth doing. Last Saturday I found myself voicing the suspicion that an excessively long report and discussion of *The Massacre of the Innocents* (shorter and better if someone had not become intoxicated by the amazing technology that allows you to hold a studio debate in London and New York simultaneously. This week it looks to me as if the attractions of yet more technical gee-whizzery have landed us with a programme with even less to recommend it.

Radio can now offer its grateful listeners the global phone-in, and it is this capacity, pioneered last year by the World Service, combined with another transatlantic link, excellent quality, which has allowed the *Woman's Hour* unit of Radio 4 to join forces with the World Service for its *Year World* (Radio 4, Sunday, producers, Elizabeth Mardall and Da Zerdini). In the first of what is to be an eight-part series, Caspar Weinberger, US Secretary of Defence, answered questions from Australia, India, Africa, Europe, even the UK, while Michael Charlton presided.

Technically speaking, it was all most impressive. Only, one call went up the spot - perhaps predictably it came from France - and even that was recovered. Without exception, the callers were as limp as if speaking from Potter's Bar and Mr Weinberger might have been sharing a studio with Mr Charlton, but alas, for all its prodigious labour, this electronic elephant could only

David Wade

Queen's Bench Division

Law Report May 12 1984

Chancery Division

Liquidator cannot assign debts due

Farley v Housing and Commercial Developments
Before Mr Justice Neill
[Judgment delivered May 10]

Where section 31 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914 applied to a company in insolvent liquidation, any debt owed to the company before the liquidation ceased to exist and could not be assigned and by reason of section 31, an account had to be taken at the time of the liquidation and the only sum, if any available for assignment was the balance found due on the taking of such account.

Mr Justice Neill so held in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division on an appeal by the claimant, Christopher Norman Farley, by a special case stated under section 21(1)(a) of the Arbitration Act 1950.

Mr Michael Kershaw, QC and Mr Giles Wignall, Solicitor for claimant; Mr John Chadwick, QC and Mr Raymond Machell for the respondents, Housing and Commercial Developments.

MR JUSTICE NEILL said that in 1972 a company of building contractors entered into two contracts with the respondents for the erection of two developments. Disputes arose between the contractors and respondents.

On February 5, 1975 an extraordinary general meeting of the contractors took place. It was resolved that the contractors could not meet their liabilities and thereafter the contractors ceased to trade. A liquidator was appointed. The company was insolvent.

It was common ground that after the liquidation commenced by virtue of section 317 of the Companies Act 1948, the provisions of section 31 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914 applied for the purposes of claims in the liquidation.

On February 1, 1975 two deeds of assignment were executed. By each deed, the contractors assigned (to the claimant) all moneys payable to the contractors by the respondents under the contracts.

An arbitrator was appointed. The respondents admitted that some moneys were due under both contracts. The claimant asserted that a further but not admitted sum was due. The respondents counter-claimed a liquidated sum for delay and damages for alleged unfinished and defective work.

1914 upon the contractors going into insolvent liquidation on February 5, 1975, the debts due under the two contracts ceased to have a separate existence as choses in action (and thus, thereafter could not be assigned) being replaced by a balance of account under section 31.

In July 1980 the contractors were dissolved. No application had been made to declare the dissolution void.

Section 31 of the 1914 Act provided: "Where there have been mutual credits, mutual debts or other mutual dealings, between a debtor and a creditor, and a receiving order shall be made under this Act and any other person proving or claiming to prove a debt under the receiving order, an account shall be taken of the mutual dealings, and the sum due from one party shall be set off against any sum due to the other party, and the balance of the account, and no more, shall be claimed or paid on either side respectively; but a person shall not be entitled under this section to claim the benefit of any set off against the property of a debtor in any case where he had, at the time of giving credit to the debtor, notice of an act of bankruptcy committed by the debtor and available against him."

The respondents argued that the effect of section 31 in the present case was that, as there had been mutual dealings between the contractors and respondents, at the commencement of the winding up in February 1975 the cross claims

and the debts payable by the respondents to the contractors ceased to have any independent existence and that thereafter the only enforceable claim was a claim for the balance.

They argued that the chose or choses in action represented by the debt or debts owed by the respondents immediately before the liquidation for moneys due under the two contracts were the right to enforce a claim for the amount, if any, which was due to the contractors after taking the account required in accordance with section 31.

The liquidator was not in a position in February, 1979 to execute deeds of assignment purporting to assign moneys due to the two contractors under the two contracts.

The arbitration proceedings purported to give the arbitrator jurisdiction to decide what sums if any could be set off against the debts assigned to the claimant. He was being asked to take an account *ex post facto* on the hypothesis that the assignments of the full sums were valid though subject to equities.

The arbitrator had no such power. By reason of section 31 the account had to be taken at the time of the liquidation and once the insolvent liquidation took place the only sum, if any, available for assignment was the balance found due on the taking of such account.

Accordingly the arbitration proceedings could not continue.

Solicitors: James Chapman & Co, Manchester; Addleshaw, Sons & Latham, Manchester.

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contending that they had cross claims for an amount exceeding those admitted sums.

Until such account had been taken, it would not have been possible to ascertain whether any sum was due from the respondents to the contractors or vice versa.

After the contractors went into insolvent liquidation the only relevant chose in action which the contractors owned was the right to enforce a claim for the amount, if any, which was due to the contractors after taking the account required in accordance with section 31.

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Payments to printers were tax deductible

O'Keefe (Inspector of Taxes) v Southport Printers Ltd
Before Mr Justice Nourse
[Judgment delivered May 9]

Payments totalling £8,085 made by a company to 27 employees - all members of a print union - on the same day as that company ceased trading, were allowable as deductions in computing liability to corporation tax. On the facts the special commissioners were entitled to find that the payments, although described as "payments in lieu of notice", had been made to secure an orderly closure and as such were wholly and exclusively for the purpose of the company's trade within the scope of section 33(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Mr Justice Nourse so held in the Chancery Division in dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the commissioners in favour of the company, Southport Printers Ltd.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that on the basis of the decisions in *Inland Revenue Commissioners v The Anglo-Brewing Co Ltd* ([1925] 12 TC 803 and *Goddard v A Wilson's Stores (Holdings) Ltd* ([1961] 40 TC 161), the question whether the payments were or were not wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the company's trade, depended on whether they were made: (i) wholly or partly for the purpose of either meeting the legal liability of the company incidental to the cessation of its trade or of safeguarding the businesses of the other members of the group of which the company formed part, in which case they were not deductible; or (ii) wholly and exclusively for the purpose of achieving the orderly conduct of the company's business prior to the cessation, in which case they were deductible.

The commissioners decided that the £8,085 was to be viewed as "a single payment made by the company in consideration for the active cooperation of its employees while it continued to trade" and "for the purpose of achieving the orderly conduct of its business prior to the date of cessation".

The Crown submitted that there was no evidence to support that determination and that the case was one in which the court should substitute its own decision for that of the commissioners. See *Edwards v Baxstow* ([1956] AC 14).

The company was one of a group of companies being subsidiaries of

the Liverpool Daily Post and Echo Ltd. About January 4, 1978 a recommendation was made to the parent company for the closure of the company's business on March 31, 1978.

Following negotiations with the unions, the NGA, Naisopa and Soga, the company agreed to meet its statutory and contractual responsibilities to its employees and to pay them amounts that totalled £31,000. The excess over the amount for which the company was legally liable was, the commissioners found, offered to the employees on the understanding that the companies in the group would contribute in order to protect the company's position and those of the other subsidiaries.

On January 16 it was decided to bring forward the closure date to February 10. As a result a statutory obligation arose to make payment to certain employees "in lieu of adequate notice of termination of

employment". It was the £8,085 payable to the 27 employees who qualified for those "payments in lieu" that was now in dispute.

On February 10 the work had been completed and the employees were duly paid off. Each received a cheque from the company in respect of the payments in lieu of notice and returned payments and salaries cheque from the parent company for balance.

For the Crown it was said that at least part of the company's purpose in paying the £8,085 was to meet its contractual and statutory liabilities incidental to the cessation of its trade, and that, in any event, it was at least a part of the company's purpose to safeguard the businesses of other companies in the group.

It never came amiss for the court to emphasise that the consequence of the principle of *Edwards v Baxstow* was that its function was not to conduct a rehearing. It could only interfere if it thought that there

was no evidence to support the commissioners' conclusion. That could not possibly be said to be so in the present case.

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Test of strict liability

Gammone (Hongkong) Ltd and Others v Attorney General of Hongkong

The offences created by section 40(2A) (b) and (2B) (b) of the Hongkong Building Ordinance (Revised Edition 1981) were offences of strict liability.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brightman) so held on May 8 in dismissing an appeal by the appellants, Gammone (Hongkong) Ltd and the company's project manager and site agent for certain building works, from the decision of the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong which allowed an appeal by the Attorney General from the dismissal by the magistrates of charges against them. The case was remitted to the magistrates.

LORD SCARMAN said that the law relevant to the appeal could be stated in the following propositions: (1) there was a presumption that a person could be held guilty of a criminal offence; (2) the presumption was particularly strong where the offence was "truly criminal" in character; (3) the presumption applied to statutory offences and could be displaced only if that was clearly or by necessary implication the effect of the statute; (4) the only situation in which the presumption could be displaced was where the statute was concerned with an issue of social concern, and public safety was such an issue; and (5) even where a statute was concerned with such an issue, the presumption of strict liability would be effective to promote the object of the statute by encouraging greater vigilance to prevent the commission of the prohibited act.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

SE revolt Sir Nicholas cannot afford to ignore

The rebellion within the Stock Exchange, first highlighted here on Wednesday, has since grown to inflammatory proportions. Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman of the Stock Exchange, and his fellow council members could do worse than spend a little time this weekend considering how best to deal with the situation before it gets out of hand.

At issue are the council's proposals for the future market system and structure of the Stock Exchange. Fixed commissions on transactions and other restrictions have to be removed under the terms of an agreement struck last year with the Government, in return for which the Government exempted the Stock Exchange from the provisions of the Restrictive Practices Act. The transition will also be used as an opportunity to introduce electronic information and supervisory systems.

The proposals were embodied a month ago in what was clearly labelled a discussion paper, and Sir Nicholas added that "we need all the help and advice that we can receive". However, an impression has been allowed to gain ground to the effect that the discussion is really a charade, and the real decisions have already been taken. Hence the revolt.

The Wat Tyler of the campaign, Mr Derek Greenwood, senior partner at stock-brokers Seymour Pierce, now claims the support of 55 firms encompassing 650 members of the Stock Exchange. That is about 15 per cent of the total membership and clearly must be taken seriously if the new systems are to be workable.

Mr Greenwood's case is that, negotiated, as opposed to fixed, commissions need not mean a break away from the present principle that member firms must have only one capacity - brokers or jobbers, not both. Dual capacity involves extra capital so that firms can carry stock on their books and trade as dealers. That favours the big battalions, they fear. Small firms could be crushed.

The view from the Stock Exchange tower is that there is much left to be decided: apart from gifts trading where the Bank of England is a key voice. They recommend the rebels to lobby their local council members and write direct to Sir Nicholas. Many of them will get a chance to vent their feelings at regional general meetings to be held this month.

A more potent threat to Sir Nicholas lies in the fact that he is up for reelection to the council next month. If the rebels have not cooled by then, that vote could be used as a focal point for the rebels' ire. That could be highly damaging to confidence. Sir Nicholas should publicly acknowledge their cause without delay.

A better standard of inflation accounting

The Institute For Fiscal Studies has issued a timely reminder that, although the Accounting Standards Committee has at least agreed on its approach to the way companies account for the impact of inflation, the wider debate has still to begin.

As part of a research project commissioned by the Association of Certified Accountants, the IFS has produced a damning analysis of current cost accounting which provided the basis for the most recent inflation accounting standard, SSAP 16, and for the requirements which the ASC proposes to include in its new

standard. The report states: "Despite its name, CCA bears no relation to a true replacement cost measure of profit."

Unlike some of the views which have been expressed in the course of the most recent discussions of inflation accounting, the IFS is not influenced by the political infighting which has enveloped much of the accountancy profession. The report accepts openly that some aspects of CCA are very useful, but it also examines the constant purchasing power method of accounting which offers some appropriate principles for assessing the impact of inflation, but like CCA it has problems when used as a stand-alone approach.

The IFS suggests that the most relevant and accurate method to use for inflation accounting is a combination of both CPP and CCA principles. By using the CCA depreciation adjustment and the CPP monetary and stock adjustments, the IFS believes it has found a true replacement cost measure which could be readily constructed and would also be simple to apply in practice.

This method, the IFS claims, would impose little burden on those who were responsible for producing the information and would be of real value to those who used it.

It is a well documented and well thought out piece of work and it is now for the accountancy profession to afford it the consideration which it deserves. The ASC has struggled to find its present compromise solution and can ill-afford to ignore the suggestions of others whose aim is only to present financial accounts in their most useful and meaningful form.

Testing time for Liffe

It has been a brisk week on the London International Financial Futures Exchange. Not only did renewed fears about higher interest rates and the almighty dollar generate a record volume of more than 30,000 lots, but the new FT-SE 100 contract was well received. Indeed, had the stock market been rising rather than falling the FT-SE might have done even better than the 4,000 of so lots it has traded since being launched on Thursday of last week.

Yet the structure of business within LIFFE is still unbalanced. The currency contracts continue to attract little trading, and it would be no surprise if the Swiss franc and yen contracts were quietly dropped. The three-month Eurodollar contract is much the most heavily traded.

To that extent, the relative success - if such it can be judged at this early stage - of the FT-SE contract will be welcome. Institutional users are showing an interest, but they will need to be convinced that the market has sufficient liquidity before they enter in force.

In the longer term, one problem about the FT-SE for fund managers is the cost of liquidating securities to hedge the rest of their portfolio. The much vaunted revolution in London securities trading should theoretically cut expenses for the big dealers.

Another drawback - which also may only be temporary - is simply that fund managers and even jobbers are not accustomed to an index which is updated every minute. The volatility which is so much a feature of American markets and which allows a two-way price to be made could, therefore, take time to appear in London.

No doubt, however, enough people will adjust to the novelty of being able to hedge the stock market for the FT-SE to survive. It is even possible that a decent trading volume - say 2,000 contracts daily - will attract speculative liquidity, although conditions in Britain do not seem broadly to favour that. Attention will now be focused on the introduction by LIFFE next month of the US Treasury bond contract and on the possibility of currency options at the end of the year or early in 1985. The next six months could see the market come of age.

The Times 1984 Budget briefing

The briefing will take place at the Dorchester Hotel on May 22, with myself as chairman. The principal speaker is Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, who will explain the strategic thinking behind the Chancellor's radical tax reforms. Information may be obtained and bookings made by telephoning 01-405 3501 (24 hours).

NEWS IN BRIEF

US inquiry clears BCal

British Caledonian did not try to thwart a rescue plan for Laker Airways in 1982, according to an investigation by the United States Department of Justice.

The department "has decided not to initiate any civil or criminal anti-trust action," British Caledonian said yesterday.

● **RELIANT MOTOR** has reported a pretax loss of £25,000 for the six months to March 31 lost against an £11,000 profit this time last year. Turnover, however, increased from £6.6m to £7.1m. *Tempos, page 22*

● **DATASERV** sales rose from \$89.5m to \$116m for the year ended December 31, and profits moved from \$1.4m to \$2.2m. The group is paying a 75 cent (50p) dividend. *Tempos, page 22*

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$373 pm \$372.50
close \$372.50-373 (\$268.75-269.25)
New York (latest): \$371.25
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$384-385.50 (\$271-278)
Sovereigns (new):
\$87.50-88.50 (\$63-63.75)
*Excludes VAT

Mobil Oil bid advances

Mobil, the second largest oil company in the US, yesterday embarked on the second stage of its complicated \$5,700m (£3,130m) bid for Superior Oil with an offer for up to 36 million shares to take its stake to 51 per cent.

Mobil is offering \$20 in cash plus debentures worth \$25 for each Superior share. The offer expires on June 19.

Mobil has said it reserves the right to accept more than the 36 million shares, although it has no current intention to do so.

The third step will be the acquisition of the outstanding 49 per cent of Superior's shares. This step is technically a merger under US rules and will be on substantially the same terms as yesterday's offer.

Pre-summit meeting wants early action

EEC talks on Tokyo tariff cuts

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and other finance ministers of the European Community today met in Rambouillet to discuss the next steps in the process of preparing for next month's economic summit in London.

The most urgent issues on the agenda are protectionism, interest rates and international debt. Preparations for the London summit originally concentrated on long-term questions of "structural" economic adjustment, since the world economic recovery was expected to inspire greater confidence about short-term economic issues and more agreement than at either of the two previous summits. But the follow-up to last year's trade pledges, endorsed at the

Williamsburg summit, has inevitably caused dispute among the main governments involved. Japan recently unveiled its fifth trade liberalization package in two years, but the European view is that this is almost wholly directed towards appeasing the United States. A further package of measures designed to liberalize Japanese financial markets, also demanded by the United States, is expected to be announced on May 21.

This will follow the ministerial meetings next weekend of the 24 governments which are members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. They are expected to agree on a number of trade measures, including the

advancement of the first "Tokyo round" tariff cuts negotiated under the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade. These are to be brought forward by a whole year, to January 1985. Two other trade difficulties due to be discussed at the OECD are the unregulated use of "mixed credits" (a combination of development aid and export credits) and "extraterritoriality" - restrictions some government, notably those of the US, attempt to impose on their trading partners dealing in third markets.

The second issue to force its way on to the summit agenda, against the wishes of some of the participants, is international debt.

GKN plans huge reshaping of UK car parts industry

By Andrew Cornelius

Guest, Keen & Nettleton, the Midlands motor components group, hopes to announce plans later this year for a new distribution company with annual sales of £400m, or one quarter of the British market for car parts.

The new company could include BL's Unipart components distribution business, to be privatized this year.

GKN was hoping to announce some details of the scheme at the annual meeting in London yesterday. However, Sir Trevor Holdsworth, the chairman, said he now expected an announcement in "a few months' time."

GKN's proposed £67m takeover of the rival Midlands motor components manufacturer, AE, was blocked by the

monopolies commission in March.

Relations between GKN and AE were strained by the takeover fight but Sir Trevor said the two companies had since discussed merging their distribution businesses, which are both losing money.

At the same time GKN has pursued similar discussions with other components distributors in a bid to reap economies from creating strong central warehousing and the elimination of duplication in components distribution and administration.

Other companies involved in industry-wide discussions to reshape the distribution components business include Quinton Hazell, Brown Brothers, Lucas Industries, Smiths Industries.

UK CAR PARTS MARKET

Wholesale outlets	Estimated turnover	Approx. market share
UK OE manuf.	600	25.3
Foreign OE manuf.	300	17.7
Quinton Hazell	80	5.2
Brown Bros	80	4.7
Lucas	60	3.5
Smiths Inds	40	2.4
Automotive Prods	30	1.8
AE	60	3.5
GKN	40	2.4
Other	400	23.5
Total market	1,700	100

Automotive Products and AE (formerly Associated Engineering).

A new force in the distribution business to compete with the original equipment manufacturers who have 35 per

cent of the British car parts market would also provide an ideal solution to the still-unresolved problem of privatization Unipart.

The seven main independent components distributors have 23.5 per cent of the distribution market, with sales of about £400m last year. GKN's market share is a tiny 2.4 per cent, but last year made losses of more than £2m from a business-hit by strong competition and technical improvements which have extended component life.

GKN has also begun collaboration talks with foreign components manufacturers following the failure to take over AE. But Sir Trevor said these plans would take longer to formulate than plans to reorganize its business in Britain.

£215m Wytch Farm sale agreed

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

British Gas has finally agreed to sell its half share in the Wytch Farm oil field in Dorset to a group of oil companies for £215m, about £55m more than provisionally agreed some months ago but still almost £200m short of the state corporation's valuation.

The new settlement clearly reflects taxation changes made in the Budget and follows pressure on the Government from the Commons Select Committee on Energy to ensure that the price was raised accordingly.

The formal agreement is to be signed on Thursday by British Gas and the so-called Dorset Group of companies, led by Tricentrol. It is expected to be followed by an announcement of new development flows by British Petroleum, which owns



Sir Denis: strongly opposed the sell-off

the other 50 per cent and "which will" probably take over from British Gas as operator of the field.

Privatization of the state interest in what is Britain's most productive on-shore oil

field has taken more than 2½ years and been beset by wrangling, often bitter, between Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman of British Gas, and a firm opponent of the sale, and the Government.

Dorset will make an initial payment of £85m under the terms of the deal announced yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, followed by a further £130m when production reaches 20,000 barrels a day.

Once total production has reached 25 million barrels, British Gas will reap 40 per cent of profits as the result of retaining a production interest net of tax and expenses. Wytch Farm has produced about 6 million barrels of oil so far, worth an estimated £20m to the Treasury in saved imports and tax payment.

Doubts over newspaper print plans

By Philip Robinson

Cracks are appearing in the informal agreement between the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mirror* over their Manchester printing plants once existing facilities cease next year.

Closure of International Thomson's Withy Grove plant in Manchester by the end of next year means that northern editions of the *Daily Mirror* and *Daily Telegraph* will have to be printed elsewhere.

Mr Clive Thornton, the new chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, plans a £20m printing plant in Manchester which could publish the northern editions of the *Daily Telegraph*.

Mr Hugh Lawson, the general manager of *Daily Telegraph*, said: "We have not made any final decisions. There are a lot of things to overcome with regard to the site, planning and cost of the whole affair."

Mr Thornton said yesterday: "There seems to be some suggestion now that they would rather have their own plant. In many ways printing the two papers could cause some difficulty, they being broadsheet and we tabloid. I think they are committed to the North West but not necessarily to Manchester."

Mr Thornton's own plans for expansion include introduction of a *New Chronicle*-style serious tabloid paper, an evening daily and the possibility of publishing a Labour-dominated newspaper on his new presses.

Four sites have been offered by Manchester City Council. Test holes are being taken at the sites to see if they can withstand the weight of the new printing machines.

The Unity Trust, the first trade union bank, is backing the venture and could raise the £20m needed.

● Press Association representatives of the Reuters Trustees include Mr Stanley Clarke, the chairman and managing director of Courier Press (Holdings) Ltd. He is not chairman and managing director of the International Thomson Organisation, as stated yesterday. Its representative as Reuters Trustees is Mr David Cole, joint deputy managing director of the International Thomson Organisation.

Slater legend returns

By William Kay, City Editor

That stock market animal of yesterday, the "shell" company, is alive and well and nestling in the portfolio of Mr Jim Slater, joint creator of the archetypal 1960's financial growth stock, Slater Walker Securities.

It is nearly five years since Slater Walker had to be rescued by the Bank of England and Mr Slater went off to write his autobiography and buy a children's bookshop.

Now, after trading in and out

of stock markets round the world, he has emerged with 5.9 per cent of the shares in Southend Stadium, a quoted company which among other things runs regular greyhound race meetings at its premises on the Essex coast.

Mr Slater's holding, even at last night's high closing price, is worth only £204,000. But it is a testimony to the Slater legend that Southend Stadium shares were among the few to rise in the midst of yesterday's stock market "bloodbath".

Index falls sharply

Equities ended the account on a gloomy note yesterday, as buyers headed for the sidelines amid fears of another imminent rise in interest rates. The FT Index lost nearly 17 points at one stage, before the appearance of a few cheap buyers for new time saw it close 13.9 down at 871.0.

Only last week, the index reached a record 922.8, but in the past four days alone it has tumbled by 44.4. That is a loss on the account of 37 points (4.1 per cent). There are fears that the index may fall another 50 points before bottoming-out in the next account.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1078.7 down 15.7 (high: 1089.0; low 1075.8)
FT Index: 871.0 down 13.9
FT All Share: 511.55 down 6.21
Bargains: 23,239
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 115.03 down 1.88
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1152.11 down 15.08
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,633.87 down 45.84
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 928.32 up 7.01
Amsterdam: 177.1 down 1.4
Sydney: AO Index 1002.3 up 0.5
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 1015.7 down 4.8
Brussels: General Index 154.30 down 0.25
Paris: CAC Index 178.9 unchanged
Zurich: SIK General 315.20 down 2.0

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.3850 unchanged
Index 80.0 down 0.1
DM 3.84 down 0.0025
FF 11.79 down 0.01
Yen 319 up 1.50
Dollar Index 131.7 down 0.2
DM 2.7725 down 0.0025
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.3825
Dollar DM 2.7752
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.58504
SDR £0.750796

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9-9½%
Finance houses base rate 9%
Discount market loans week fixed 7½%
3 month interbank 9½-9¾%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11½-11¾%
3 month DM 8¼-8½%
3 month FF 12¼-12½%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.50
Fed funds 10%
Treasury long bond 8¾-8½%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period April 4 to May 1, 1984 inclusive: 8.934 per cent

11.6%

PER ANNUM

IMMEDIATE INCOME

from

Britannia Jersey Gilt Fund Limited

- * **THE FUND** - primarily invests in "exempt" British Government Securities (Gilts). These are Gilts which are not liable to any U.K. taxation.
- * **QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS** - paid free of any withholding taxes.
- * **A REAL RETURN** - inflation is only about 5%, the Fund therefore provides a real return of more than 6%.
- * **NO FIXED TERM** - the investment can be held for as long as you wish you can sell at any time, on any business day.
- * **MINIMUM INVESTMENT** - £1000 lump sum or £50 minimum per month in the Britannia Accumulation Savings Account.

ABOUT BRITANNIA GROUP
Britannia is one of the leading Investment Management Groups in the U.K., Channel Islands and U.S.A. and now manages in excess of £3,000m. on behalf of 350,000 investors worldwide, including 1,000 institutional clients from its offices in London, Jersey, Denver and Boston.

NOTE - U.K. resident shareholders will, depending on their circumstances, be liable to U.K. taxation in respect of dividends they receive. Investors should recognise that whilst Gilts provide a very high immediate return, the prospects of capital gain in the future may vary. The fund should therefore be considered as part of an overall balanced portfolio. Please ask for details of our recommended portfolio guide.

COMPLETE THE COUPON AND RECEIVE:
a detailed letter including past performance figures, our Gilt market investment bulletin and the Fund brochure including your application form.

The Fund is based in Jersey and is listed on The Stock Exchange, London.

Britannia

Jersey Gilt Fund Limited

PO. Box 271, Queensway House, Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Telephone: 0534 73114.

Mr D. Alden, Director, Britannia International Investment Management Limited, PO. Box 271, Queensway House, Queen Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Please send me the explanatory memorandum Name _____ Address _____

I am interested in the Britannia Jersey Gilt Fund Limited (on the terms of which alone applications will be considered).

☐ Please send me your recommended portfolio guide.

☐ Please also send me details of the Britannia Accumulation Savings Account.

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John Govett & Co. Limited

An independent investment management company with funds under management or advice totalling over £750 million, including the following four listed investment trust companies:

The Border & Southern Stockholders Trust p.l.c.

The company aims at a flexible approach to the leading world markets and is willing to switch resources as prospects change. Total net resources £185 million.

Lake View Investment Trust p.l.c.

The company aims to achieve growth of capital and income, principally in the Far East. Total net resources £147 million.

The Stockholders Investment Trust p.l.c.

The company invests primarily for capital growth, principally in North America. Total net resources £109 million.

The General Stockholders Investment Trust p.l.c.

The company invests primarily for capital growth with emphasis on companies with smaller capitalisations, both in the United Kingdom and North America. Total net resources £24 million.

For further information contact Brian Jervis, John Govett & Co. Limited, 111 Leicester House, 77 London Wall, London EC2N 1DH. Telephone: 01 555 5620.

McDONALD WHEELER FUND MANAGEMENT LIMITED

The investment people who are worth talking to

FREPOST, 20-22 WATLING STREET, CANTERBURY, KENT CT1 2ER. CANTERBURY 02271 57038 (4 lines)

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9.75%
Barclays	9.75%
BCCI	9.75%
Citibank Savings	9.75%
Consolidated Trust	9.75%
Continental Trust	9.75%
C. Hoare & Co.	9.75%
Lloyds Bank	9.75%
Midland Bank	9.75%
Nat Westminster	9.75%
TSB	9.75%
Williams & Glyn's	9.75%
Citibank NA	9.75%

† 7 day deposits on rates of under £10,000, 10% £10,000 to £25,000, 11% £25,000 and over, 7%.

Cash call as profit rises at Tern

Tern-Consulate, the shirt, tie and knitwear maker, is raising £780,000 with a rights issue of preference shares at par.

The terms are one per cent convertible cumulative redeemable preference share for every three ordinary shares held. The rights issue accompanied the announcement of pretax profits for the year to the end of last December of £33,079, up from £31,679 the previous year. It is paying an unchanged total 0.5p dividend.

Tern is promising pretax profits of £350,000 for the present year and will pay a total dividend of 2p.

Mr Peter Barden, the chairman, says that all divisions of the group are trading well and turnover is expected to increase more than 35 per cent.

In brief

● **YORKLYDE:** Year to Jan 31, 1984. Turnover £4.94m (£4.71m). Pretax profit £1.27m (£1.12m). Total dividend 20p (18p). One-for-one scrip issue proposed, after which 20p shares will be subdivided into two shares of 10p each.

● **MIDSUMMER INNS:** Board proposes to raise about £310,000 net by rights issue of 291,611 ordinary shares at £1.20 each on a one-for-two basis.

● **JOHN FINLAN:** Total dividend for 1983 7p (6.25p). Turnover £6.4m (£4.6m). Pretax profit £480,000 (£592,000). One-for-one scrip issue proposed.

● **LILLESALL:** Dividend for 1983 unchanged at 1p a share. Turnover £8.43m (£10.71m). Pretax profit £1.20m (£4.4, 000 loss).

● **BLOCKLEYS** (Telford-based manufacturers of building products): Mr T. J. B. Wright, chairman, reports in his annual statement that the increase in turnover and profitability, particularly in the second half of 1983, has resulted in a balance sheet which the board considers will provide a strong platform for development. Trading in the early months of 1984 has been significantly higher than in 1983.

● **MODERN ENGINEERS OF BRISTOL:** Messrs N. R. Lyle and I. Jacob of Thornton Baker have been appointed receivers.

● **COMCAP:** Offer for sale of 5.5 million ordinary shares at 120p each has been oversubscribed. Details of basis of allotment will be announced soon.

● **NORTHGATE EXPLORATION:** Three months to March 31, 1984. Revenue £16.85m (about 49m), against £20.23m last time. Pretax loss \$394,000 (profit \$873,000).

● **SCOTISH NORTHERN INVESTMENT TRUST:** Year to March 31, 1984. Total net dividend, 3.26p (3.08p, adjusted). Pretax revenue £3.28m (£3.14m).

● **CHURCH & CO:** Mr Ian Church, the chairman, told the annual meeting that the group men's shoes factories continue to be extremely busy, with full order books. Retail sales started the year well, but March was not a good month. Trading in April was excellent and 1984 looks like being a good year.

Church's US subsidiary has signed an agreement with Perry Ellis to market exclusively men's shoes designed by Ellis in the US.

● **J. BILLAM:** Total net dividend for 1983 unchanged at 2.8p a share. Pretax loss £18,000 (profit £6,000). Board views future with optimism.

● **WILLIAMS HOLDINGS:** has reached agreement to buy two of Blackwood Hodge's subsidiaries - Aircraft Engineering Components and Blackwood Hodge Vehicles. Contracts expected to be exchanged within the next few weeks.

● **J. HENRY AND SON (FENTON WITTS):** Annual meeting was told board now judges that operating profits for 1984 will not reach 1983's exceptional level.

A number of grants have been made to the company.

● **UNIT TRUST:** has also been made to the company.

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Gold nears chart brink as US rates shift up

Gold prices spent yesterday easing back. The afternoon fix of \$327.50 compared with the morning price of \$373.50 and left chartists reaching for their set squares. The price of the precious metal now has only a few dollars left to fall before breaking into new territory.

As Mr Robin Griffiths of Grieverson Grant points out, the price of gold, measured on his short-term, indicators broke out of its downward trend in January when it bounced off the \$365 level. The price immediately shot ahead to \$405 before resuming yet again its steady deterioration.

Mr Griffiths feels there is scope for the gold price to form a massive double bottom if it stabilises between \$365-\$370. Intuitively he is still reasonably optimistic, but suggests that gold is holding on to its bullish view by glistering fingernails.

But if the price drops below \$365, then Griffiths is at one with Mr Richard Lake, the chartist at the stockbrokers Raphael Zorn, who is a fairly unqualified bear of gold prices.

According to Mr Lake, the price of gold has been in a broad downward trend for the last four years and looks set to stay bearish for some time. The fall below \$380 is ominous and the price now seems destined to move back gradually to the \$300 level, after bouncing misleadingly around \$365.

By treating gold as the flip side of the dollar, this relatively gloomy picture of the precious metal fits in with the trend towards rising interest rates in the US. The difficulties the authorities experienced last week during the debt auction, which culminated in the disaster of the 30-year bond offering - a smaller than expected amount of non-competitive bids came in for the auction - exemplifying investors' preference for ever increasing real yields, and possibly liquid assets. US prime rates look set to keep rising, even though real yields are now approaching 10 per cent.

According to pundits like Mr Richard Coghlan of the US-based magazine *Financial Economist*, this means that

investors' reactions to symptoms of excess demand differ this time from their responses in the previous cycle.

Gold touched \$850 at the beginning of the decade, as excess demand fed straight through to prices. Hence investors switched immediately from paper into gold.

But during the current business cycle, inflation has remained muted, and is still below 5 per cent in the US. Excess demand, however, shows up first in the scale of the Budget deficit, and next in the increasing current account shortfall as deficits keep rates high. This in turn boosts the value of the currency, which sucks in cheap imports.

In the short term, investors adopt a benign approach to the inflationary potential of economic policies, since Government continues to offer, under pressure, higher rates. This, in essence, is what may have happened last week and certainly fits in with the Kaufman thesis of rising rates, advanced recently.

Beyond a certain level, however, the interest rate weapon grows blunt. And at this point, as prices finally start to rise sharply, investors realize that Government has exhausted its most accessible policy options and start switching back into gold.

The spiral during this business cycle may be more tortuous. But if gold continues to fall, then the decline appears to signify that US rates are still set to rise. Stability around \$365 could seem even more sinister, implying that investors were starting to look ahead and discount a rising level of US inflation, beyond the short term move to higher rates.

But the group met its flotation profits forecast of \$2.1m despite these problems, and this achievement lends some credibility to the board's bullish stories for 1984. The United States computer leasing market is now in high octane form, largely because of IBM's push to sell equipment, rather than lease it, and spring business has exceeded Budget estimates.

In Germany, divisional reorganization has taken place, so that by next year, Germany should be close to outstripping Britain as a profits generator.

So far this year, British sale are roughly 25 per cent ahead.

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IMPORTANT
Building Society
investors please read

M&G PLANNED INCOME PORTFOLIO

The M&G Planned Income Portfolio, based on five high-yielding M&G unit trusts, is designed to provide twelve income payments spread over the year. At 9th May 1984 the estimated gross yield on the Portfolio was 7.4%, over 68% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index. This yield is based on a Portfolio of £3,000 of which £1,000 is invested in M&G Gilt and £500 in each of the other four Funds. This spread provides income distributed net of basic-rate tax in roughly equal amounts; alternatively, you can arrange to receive larger amounts at times of the year when your commitments are high (please see distribution dates in the table below).

The table on the right illustrates M&G's successful record of providing unit trust investors with increasing income over the years. Past performance is no guarantee of the future, but it is expected that income from this Portfolio will continue to grow in future years. This is in contrast to a Bank or Building Society deposit, where the income can vary only in line with the general level of interest rates. The table compares the income over the last ten years from a Building Society deposit and four M&G unit trusts.

In addition to generating income totalling £12,507, your £12,000 capital invested in these unit trusts would have grown to £38,617 by 9th May 1984. In contrast a comparable Building Society deposit would still be worth only £12,000, and your income from it would have totalled just £9,386 over the ten years.

However, you should remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. Unit trusts are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The five funds described here are all designed to produce above average and increasing income with the exception of M&G Gilt, which is designed to produce a high initial income.

Dividend Fund aims for a yield about 50% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index, from a wide range of ordinary shares.

High Income Fund and Extra Yield Fund both aim for a yield about 60% higher than that of the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index, from a portfolio of ordinary shares.

Conversion Income Fund aims to provide a similar return, but its portfolio of ordinary shares has a strong bias towards smaller companies.

Gilt & Fixed Interest Income Fund aims to provide a high initial income, with prospects of some capital growth, from investment in government securities.

COMPARISON TABLE

Annual income¹ from an investment of £12,000

Year	Building Society ²	Four M&G unit trusts ³
1974	£ 900	£ 671
1975	£ 865	£ 811
1976	£ 830	£ 902
1977	£ 840	£1,050
1978	£ 755	£1,225
1979	£1,015	£1,385
1980	£1,260	£1,579
1981	£1,087	£1,604
1982	£1,024	£1,614
1983	£ 810	£1,666

NOTES: 1. Net of tax to basic rate taxpayer. 2. Based on the Building Societies Association's recommended rate of return on fully paid shares. 3. £3,000 invested in each of M&G's Dividend, High Income, Extra Yield, and Conversion Income Funds on 2nd January 1974. M&G Gilt was not launched until 1980.

READ THIS TABLE BEFORE INVESTING	DIVIDEND	HIGH INCOME	CONVERSION	EXTRA YIELD	GILT
Launch date	May '64	April '69	Feb '73	Nov '73	Dec '80
Initial price	50p	50p	50p	50p	50p
Price of Income units at 9th May 1984	262.1p	206.3p	139.2p	149.9p	59.3p
Estimated current gross yield	5.78%	6.19%	6.53%	6.63%	9.83%
% rise in Fund offer price since launch	+424.2%	+312.6%	+178.4%	+199.8%	+18.6%
% rise in F.T. All Share Index over same period	+391.4%	+221.9%	+170.6%	+204.6%	+12.7%
Distribution dates	15 January 15 July	31 January 31 July	31 March 30 September	1 May 1 November	31 March 30 June 30 September 31 December
Trustee	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	Clivedale Bank Plc	Courts & Co.	Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited	Courts & Co.

*F.T. Government Securities Index

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price. Gilt Fund bears an annual charge of up to 1%, plus VAT (currently 4%), of the Fund's value deducted from net income. The other Funds presently bear an annual charge of 1%, deducted from gross income, but during 1984 unit holders will be asked to approve an increase in the annual charge to a maximum of 1%, with the intention of restricting it to not more than 1% at least until 1988. Income is distributed on the appropriate dates net of basic rate tax. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for sale or purchase will be due for settlement 2 or 3 weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. All the Funds are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Gilt Fund is a narrower-range investment and all the other Funds are wider-range investments. M&G Securities Limited, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Telephone: 01-626 4588.

FROM £3,000

Minimum investment in any one Fund: £500.

TO: M&G SECURITIES, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ.

PLEASE INVEST a total of £ (minimum £3,000) in Income units of the following Funds, divided as indicated, at the price paid on receipt of this application (if no split is indicated, 1/4 of the total will be invested in Gilt and 3/4 of the total in each of the remaining Funds) Minimum £500 in any one Fund.

DIVIDEND	HIGH INCOME	CONVERSION	EXTRA YIELD	GILT
£	£	£	£	£

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

SAVINGS PLAN You can build a holding in units from £20 a month with no commitment. Tick this box for details.

Registered in England No. 00776. Reg Office as above. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

THE M&G GROUP

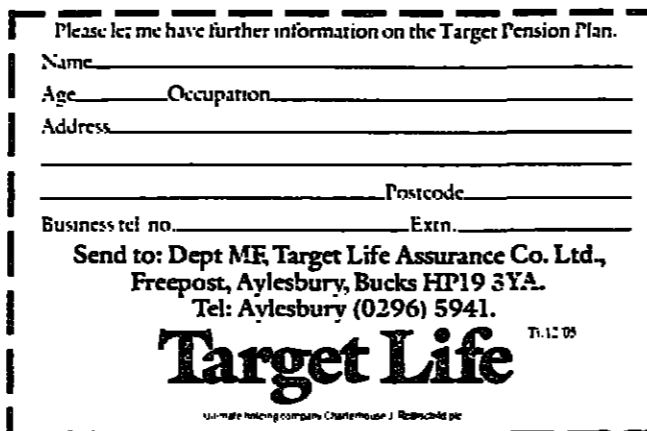
£25m radar order for Cossor

By John Lawless

Cossor Electronics yesterday won its first big order in a market which, at today's prices is expected to be worth £500m in the next decade.

The order, from the Canadian

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke




Waverley Asset Management
MEMBER OF THE CANTERBURY ASSOCIATION

Signature _____ **Date** _____
(In case of joint applications add second name)
Surname: MRS/MR/MISS
(Check letters please!)
First names: _____
Address: _____

Postcode: _____

17E



Fidelity

INTERNATIONAL

مکتبہ دارالافتاء

FAMILY MONEY

Pacific Basin Fund

With a spread of oil and gas shares operating from the Tamar Sea to the north-west of Australia to New Zealand in the south Waverley Asset Management has launched a Pacific Basin Energy Fund. It aims to take advantage of low extraction costs, a surge in exploration in the past year and the historically low share prices of operators.

The fund's principal objective will be capital growth by investing in equities from the larger resource companies at the other where a successful find would have a substantial effect on the share price. The minimum investment is £400. It will be run by Mr William McLucas and is his second venture in the unit trust field. His first, the Waverley Australian Gold Fund, took £2.5m during the first two and a half months.

Purchase plan

With the withdrawal of Life Assurance Premium Relief, Provident Life Commercial Credit have launched a plan to provide a financially effective method of buying a home.

Provident Life has an established Pension Mortgage Plan which is accepted as an unbeatable plan for the self-employed and those in non-pensionable employment.

Under the new scheme, lenders no longer charge a higher rate of interest as occurred previously. Further, it offers advantages of virtually unlimited finance available, no interest differential for remortgages and no arrangement fee. Further details from Provident Life Association (Tel. 01-247 3200).

Men penalized

Married men who have been out of work for a year or more are £550 a year worse off than they would otherwise be because of a Department of Health and Social Security ban on paying them supplementary benefit at the higher long-term rate, the National Consumer Council claimed in a discussion paper published yesterday.

Pensioners, widowed mothers and

others receive the higher long-term rate, says Mr John Ditch, a lecturer in social policy, who wrote the paper, *Hard Terms*. "Unemployed people are alone among claimants in being treated this way."

Interest at 8%

Building societies are vying with each other to produce the most competitive returns for investors. Among the front runners is North Wiltshire Ridgeway's three month notice shares paying 8 per cent, net of basic rate.

Minimum investment is £500 and money can be withdrawn without penalty if 90 days notice is given. If you want your money out immediately, you will have to forfeit 90 days' interest. Monthly interest can be arranged on investments of £3,000 or more. Details from North Wiltshire Ridgeway Building Society, 18-19 Commercial Road, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 5NP. Tel: 0793 481353.

Mortgage source

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society is the one to go to if you want a mortgage to a hurry and your own society cannot oblige. Mr Philip Webster, of the Cheltenham, said: "We are considering all applications, even from non-members."

However, pay more than the basic rate of 10.25 per cent if you want over £15,000. Between £15,000 and £30,000, there is a premium of 0.5 per cent, rising to 1 per cent for loans above £30,000.

Bonuses increased

Ecclesiastical Insurance has increased its bonuses for its with-profit policyholders. In the Life Fund the capital bonus, first introduced by the company in 1981, has been increased to 30 per cent of sums assured and attaching bonuses for policies becoming claims at present. A reduced rate is payable for policies becoming claims within 10 years of the policy being effected.

In the recent Money Management survey of with-profits endowment policies, Ecclesiastical was among the top performers for 10, 15 and 25-year contracts.

Property bonds

The new high-interest bonds of Property Owners Building Society pay 8.25 per cent basic rate tax-paid (equal to 11.79 per cent per annum gross). The minimum investment is £500 and the maximum £30,000, or £60,000 for joint investors.

Withdrawals may be made on three months' notice. If withdrawals are made within the first 12 months, no interest is paid during the notice period on the sum to be withdrawn. After the first year there is no interest penalty. The rate will fluctuate with any changes in the ordinary share rate and the premium is not guaranteed. Further details from Property Owners Building Society, Tel: 01-637 3041.

Chase de Vere offer

It is still possible to get as much as 8.29 per cent, net of basic rate tax, on a building society investment.

Chase de Vere, the insurance broker, is offering an investment with a leading building society paying 8.29 per cent, equivalent to 8.44 per cent if you allow the half-yearly interest to be reinvested. The money can be withdrawn without loss of interest, provided the three months' notice period is kept. The minimum investment is £1,000, with a maximum of £10,000 per person. Details from Chase de Vere, Tel: 01-404 5766.

No house price boom

House prices are not accelerating, according to the latest bulletin from the Halifax. They rose by an average of 6.5 per cent between April, 1983 and April, 1984, with a 3 per cent increase in the first quarter of this year.

"Mortgage lending remains strong and there is a good supply of funds", reports the Halifax. But brokers say there are some delays, however, at branches of Woolwich and Nationwide. Woolwich still charges no differential for larger-than-average home loans and Nationwide has reluctantly introduced a differential in recent weeks to suppress demand.



Sarah Arkle: confident of the outlook for Far Eastern economies

New Far East fund

Investors in Hambro Life bonds and Maximum Investment Plans will now be able to link their savings to a new Far Eastern fund.

It will invest in Japan, Australia, Hongkong, Malaysia and Singapore. Miss Sarah Arkle, who will manage the fund, remains confident of the outlook for the economies and the stock market there. She said: "In a world that is becoming increasingly technology-oriented, Japan seems well placed to benefit."

Miss Arkle also manages Allied Hambro's Japan and Pacific trusts. The Japan trust has done well over both the shorter one-year term and the three-year period.

Finance for women

One-day courses are coming to London to enable women to become more confident in dealing with their own

finance. Covering such topics as saving effectively, buying a house, surviving a divorce and starting a business. The courses were run by Money Matters and the next is planned for June 13. It will be held in London, and guest speakers include a solicitor, a bank manager, a chartered accountant and an insurance and pensions consultant (all women). Further information from Susan Fieldman: Walton on Thames (0932) 221286.

New fixed-rate bond

A new fixed-rate bond is being launched by the Alliance Building Society. It claims to be the only big society offering a fixed-rate share investment.

The bond guarantees a fixed return of 8.0 per cent net of basic rate tax (equivalent to 11.4 per cent gross) to April 30 1985.

Sums from £500 to £30,000 can be invested. On April 30 1985, investors will have the option of renewing their bond for a further period at a new fixed-interest rate, withdrawing all or part of their investment or re-investing in any of the society's other schemes.

Further information from: Alliance Building Society, Brighton (0273) 775454. Leamington Spa also offers a fixed-rate bond, paying 8.25 per cent, net of basic rate tax over a one-year term. The minimum investment is £2,000. Details from: Leamington Spa Building Society, Tel: 0226 27920.

Insurance discounts

Women drivers do not have as many accidents as men, according to NEM Mutual, which is offering 7.5 per cent discounts to female drivers. NEM says: "Analysis has proved that women drivers do not claim as often as men and the average cost per claim is lower. But before you sign up, check with the Automobile Association Insurance Services as, even with the discount, the NEM cover might work out more expensive than a standard quote."

AA Insurance Services' numbers are in the telephone directory.

Low-start homes

Low-start, low-cost is the theme of a new policy for house purchasers introduced by Sentinel Insurance Company. The Low Start Budget Endowment is designed to meet the needs of younger, first-time buyers by reducing substantially monthly endowment policy premiums for the first five years after a property purchase.

A low level of premium is fixed for the initial five years, after which premiums are increased on a once-for-all basis for the remainder of the mortgage term. But the key to all endowment policies - whether low a start and linked to a home loan or straightforward savings plans - is the return on money invested. And historically, Sentinel has not been one of the best performers.

A recent survey by Money Management reveals that a £10-a-month (before tax relief) investment in Sentinel's 15 year endowment policy, maturing this year, would be worth £3,182 compared with a return of £4,511 from Standard Life, £4,458 from Norwich Union or £4,391 from Equitable Life.

Savings bonus

For the individual regular saver, Crown Unit Trust Services is introducing a regular monthly unit trust savings plan.

While this new Savings Plan is designed to encourage regular monthly purchases of unit trusts, it offers considerable flexibility to cater for irregular payments too. There is a bonus for the regular saver of a minimum £20 a month after five years with 60 monthly payments received - a further 1 per cent of total contribution will be added to the Savings Plan in the form of extra units. After 10 years with 120 payments received this increases to 1½ per cent.

Crown runs three unit trusts - a growth trust which has done quite well over the past year, an income fund which has put in a fairly average performance, and an American trust which has not been around long enough to establish a track record.

Further details from Crown Unit Trust Services, 04852 (Working) 5033.

HERITAGE

Revenue tightens the rules

Owners of paintings, antique and other objects of national heritage, which were exempted from the old estate duty because of their scientific, historic or artistic interest could now face a higher tax bill if they decide to sell up after the Inland Revenue's decision to enforce the rules on calculating the duty payable more stringently.

Under the estate duty provisions, and under the capital transfer tax rules which replaced it in 1975, the Treasury could exempt from tax any item of national interest, providing it was preserved and kept in the United Kingdom. If this undertaking was broken or the item sold, duty became payable.

The old estate duty had a special provision in the case of gifts which had been made up to seven years before the donor's death. The value of the gift was still subject to tax but was reduced by a tapering relief of up to 60 per cent. Gifts which had been exempt from duty under the national heritage objects rule, but were subsequently sold, had received a measure of tax relief.

The revenue has now announced that this tapering relief will no longer be allowed and any sale of a previously exempt item will attract duty on the sale proceeds.

Ian Griffiths

BONDS

Signal brokers to sue insurers

Hope is revived for investors who lost money in Signal Life gilt bonds with the news that the brokers who sold the bonds are starting legal action against their professional indemnity insurers.

Writs have been issued by Lothiansure Insurances and Lawson Insurance Consultants against their respective professional indemnity insurers - a syndicate of Lloyd's brokers in the case of Lothiansure, and Federation General in respect of Lawson.

"We have issued writs asking for a declaration that the brokers are entitled to indemnity, alternatively we are claiming damages for breach of contract," explains Mr Peter Moran of the solicitors Chattertons, which is acting for the Signal Bondholders Protection Committee.

A successful action has already been brought against Lawson Insurance Consultants, of Grimsby, by one client who was advised to invest in the Signal Life gilt bond, so the declaration or damages claim in this case should be fairly straightforward.

Mr Andrew Lothian, of Lothiansure Insurances, has not yet been sued by any of his clients. But he reckons he has a potential liability which could bankrupt him if his professional indemnity insurers do not pay out. "I think my potential liability is around £400,000 and it is doubtful if the company could stand a successful action of that order," he admits.

Signal Life, a Gibraltar insurance company, failed in August, 1982, owing investors around £6m. As it was an offshore insurance company, investors were not entitled to compensation under the Policyholders Protection Act. The more fortunate had invested in Signal Life's gold bonds and were compensated promptly by the trustees to the fund, the Hongkong Shanghai Bank. But this still left an estimated £1.5m owing to gilt bondholders whose only channel for redress was to sue their investment advisers.

This they have been doing in increasing numbers. In February of this year, for example, Mr David Craven won his case against Lawson Insurance Consultants and has been paid out, plus costs, in full.

The point now under dispute is whether the investment advisers can, in turn, claim against their professional indemnity insurers.

The professional indemnity

Lorna Bourke

INSURANCE

Licensing favoured

Insurance companies believe that their salesmen should be licensed, according to a survey carried out by the Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association (LIMRA). Research members account for an estimated 70 per cent of all life insurance sales. Research among the 36 members of LIMRA revealed unanimous support of big life offices for licensing life assurance sales people.

Some 26 companies took part in the survey and all said that they were in favour of licensing. LIMRA also claims that there was unanimous agreement, too, in wishing to extend licensing beyond retained field-focus, to include insurance brokers and other, full-time independent intermediaries. Only one company believed its sales force might react adversely to licensing.

The question of licensing has been much debated in recent months, as a means of raising selling standards. LIMRA's survey says: "On the important question of who should administer the industry's licensing system, there was overwhelming support for Professor Gower's concept of forming a new self-regulatory body."

Any such body should have the power to investigate complaints against salesmen and, if necessary, withdraw the licence.

Mr Roger Wain, whose company, Imperial Life, introduced a pilot licensing-scheme last year, said: "We cannot afford to ignore this response - not the increasing calls from outside the industry for the regulation of life assurance salespeople."



Do you find the whole business of settling bills rather unsettling? Then open a Leeds Pay & Save Account. It earns you full savings account interest - 6.25% net* - on your bills money.

How does it work?

Very simply. Just save regularly each month (or week) and we'll do the rest. While your savings are growing at 6.25%* some of your balance can be used to pay your regular bills - such as your standing orders for phone, gas, electricity, rates, HP payments and so on, as well as your mortgage instalments.

But a Pay & Save Account can go even further than that. It can also help pay your irregular bills. We can write Leeds cheques for amounts over £50, and can also introduce you to the Yorkshire Bank Barclaycard -

provided you're 18 or over. This is a VISA card which you can use for all sorts of purchases.

At the end of the month we can settle your Barclaycard bill also from your Pay & Save Account. And, as if that isn't enough...

We don't charge you, we pay you.

While banks may charge you for services like these, we actually pay you (6.25% net*) - almost twice the bank deposit rate. That means the money in your account is earning the same rate of interest as a normal savings account. So, obviously, the more you leave in your account after your bills have been settled, the better off you'll be.

*Net rate per annum, basic rate tax paid. Equivalent to 8.83% gross p.a. where tax is paid at 30%.

It's a more efficient way to use your money.

Find out how a Pay & Save Account can make your life considerably easier. Your next step? Through the door of your nearest branch of the Leeds, with an opening deposit of £100. We'll tell you everything you need to know about our Pay & Save Account. You'll find it a very settling experience.

Written details of Yorkshire Bank Barclaycard are available from The Leeds Permanent Building Society, Head Office, Permanent House, The Headrow, LEEDS LS1 1NS. Leeds Permanent Building Society is a licensed credit broker.

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FOOTBALL

The last act for Keegan and Liverpool's record-breaking hit

By Clive White

Football's version of *The Mousetrap* keeps on running. Were dear Aunt Agatha suddenly to cease being a theatrical ever-present on the English stage, who better than the Joe Fagan whodunit troupe to take her place? The probability since August that Liverpool would win the League championship for a record fifth time gives way to a certainty today that even their most ardent critics would concede.

It is curious how regularly the vultures have gathered during the last eight championships — six of which Liverpool have won — to search for some hidden frailty in the Merseyside. Perhaps it is the monopoly of a single manager's success that irks them, just as the neutral found himself pulled to the side of Jimmy White in the snooker final with the imperious Steve Davis this week. It is all understandable but what makes me chuckle is that they never learn from the mistake of tipping against Liverpool.

There was a mistaken smell of blood in the nostrils of some jacks in January when Dalgleish was carried off stage with a fractured cheekbone and Manchester United were seen as ideal understudies. But Dalgleish returned in good time to lend his special skills at the conclusion of the season.

The importance of his presence nevertheless seems to have been overshadowed by the rampant Rush, who threatens to reach 50 goals for the season; he has two games to achieve, what took him one on Monday — four goals. Another vital contributor

is Wark, who has arrived at Anfield with the same good timing as one of his memorabilia runs from the deep at Ipswich. He has given the champions a fresh cutting edge.

If Tottenham Hotspur have not put United out of their misery by half time at White Hart Lane today, news from another lane may do so. Whatever Notts County achieve, it is too late for mirage.

The last unfortunate soul to plunge into the second division may do so with a rare moment of triumph. The three leading candidates, Stoke City, Birmingham City and Coventry City, all on 47 points, are all at home with a good chance of victory. Each have a powerful case for promotion: Stoke have the worst goal difference; Coventry, the poorest form; and Birmingham the toughest opposition.

So narrow is the gap that even Sunderland, up in sixteenth place, could wobble off.

Close examination reveals a few clues to the unlikely one. Though Sunderland will be without James at Leicester, the opposition is riddled with injuries and suspension. Southampton, their UEFA Cup place assured, have little to play for at Birmingham save an absurd mathematical chance of winning the title. Of greater significance is the absence of the suspended Wallace and Agboola. At Highfield Road, Peake, the Coventry centre half, may complete a surprising recovery from injury to face a Norwich City forward line of full of youths. Stoke, therefore, emerge as unlikely favourites for the fall. Their best hope comes in pummelling the corpse of Wolves.

Their replacements from the second division are already known, if not their order. Sheffield Wednesday are well placed to win the championship at Cardiff. Chelsea, leading clearly on goal difference, face awkward opponents at Grimsby.

But the most celebrated farewell will be that of Keegan at St James's Park. Though he is doubtful because of a head injury, the little man said gallantly of what would be a timely 500th League appearance: "If the fans understand that I will not be 100 per cent and it will be virtually impossible for me to head the ball, then I am prepared to play."

Wark: good timing

Deacon said yesterday: "I am sorry to have done this, but our form this year has been most disappointing." The club play their last game of the season at home to Swansea today.

Alan Ball will take temporary charge of the team's affairs, until a permanent appointment is made.

Bobby Gould, the Coventry City manager, has been given a vote of confidence by John Jamson, his chairman, on the eve of today's home match against Norwich which will decide whether the club stay in the first division.

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Campbell dismissed

Portsmouth have dismissed Bobby Campbell, their manager, after less than two years in charge at Fratton Park. Campbell was told of the decision by John Deacon, the chairman yesterday.

Campbell, a former coach at Arsenal and Queen's Park Rangers, and a former manager at Fulham, had been in charge for 20 months. He reported £30,000 a year contract to run. Despite spending nearly £1m during his managerial career at Portsmouth, the club are currently fourth from bottom of the second division after winning promotion last year. However, they are safe from relegation.

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Celtic have a double incentive

Celtic are determined to wind up their League season in style this afternoon. Even with championship and relegation issues decided, the Celtic manager, David Hay, is adamant that his team have incentives to beat Dundee United, always formidable opponents, at Parkhead.

"A first," he says, "is the fact that next week's Scottish Cup final with Aberdeen gives us our last chance of winning a major honour this season, and we must give ourselves a boost."

He is also keen to maintain the club's unbeaten League run at home and says that two points today would ensure that Celtic finish second in the League to Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, who meet St Mirren at the end of the season, Alex Ferguson admitted yesterday that the club are waiting for a bid.

Jim Thompson yesterday resigned his position as chairman of Maidstone United, who as Alliance Premier League champions will seek election to the Football League next month (Paul Newman writes). The club's other directors resigned en bloc at yesterday's annual meeting of shareholders and Mr Thompson, who was ousted as chairman while on a business trip to the United States earlier this year, has formed a new board.

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Long-distance runner is lonely no longer

By Pat Butcher

A second play entitled *Marathon* hit London last week and, along with adverts featuring athletes selling everything from confectionery to computers, shows the extent to which distance running has permeated the popular consciousness in recent years.

Television times

The race will be televised "live" on BBC1, from 9.05 am to 11.10 pm, with edited highlights from 12.55 to 1.25 pm, and from 7.15 to 8 pm.

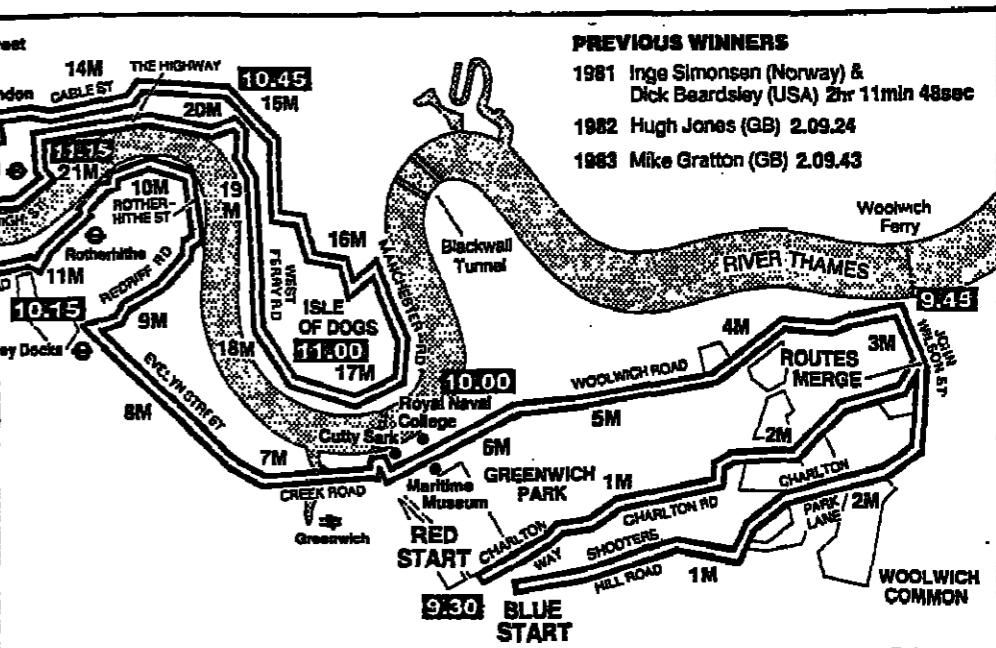
The real thing, with a cast of thousands, opens at Greenwich at 9.20 for the elite women and 10 minutes later for the men tomorrow morning. And the award for the best performance is a run at the Olympics in Los Angeles, in August.

This fourth London Marathon, sponsored by Mars and

incorporating the AAA championship, is the last opportunity to impress Britain's Olympic marathon selectors, who meet at 4.30 tomorrow to choose a squad of three men and three women. But only the first British man, and the first two British women, can be sure of making the transatlantic trip, for the open-ended selection policy has resulted in much uncertainty over what the athletes must do to get chosen.

Geoff Smith, Hugh Jones and Joyce Smith, the leading contenders for places, are not competing tomorrow; they are relying on impressive times and performances in marathons elsewhere to ensure their selection.

Juma Ikanga and Ingrid Kristiansen pose a further problem for the leading Britons. The Tanzanian and the Norwegian, who are in their countries' Olympic squads, are tomorrow's favourites. Mrs



WINNERS AND TIMES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Winners and times of the main marathons since London, 1983:

APRIL 1983: Boston: G Meyer (US), 2hr 08min 01sec; woman, J Benoit (US), 2:22:45. Seoul: T Parkson (Sov), 2:16:01.

MAY: Paris: J Bonberger (FR), 2:12:38; woman, L Lees (GB), 2:16:38. Manchester: J Ashworth (GB), 2:15:39.

JUNE: Los Angeles: woman, J Benoit (US), 2:24:24. Sydney: R Tabb (GB), 2:10:33; woman, A Loh-Lebrun (FR), 2:27:46. Stockholm: H Jones (GB), 2:11:37; woman, T Rasmussen (Sov), 2:35:55.

Laredo, Spain (European Cup): W Carpinis (EG), 2:12:26.

AUGUST: Helsinki (women's world championship): G Watz (Nor), 2:28:09. Helsinki (men's world championship): R Castella (Aug), 2:10:33. Bolton: I Thompson (GB), 2:18:09.

SEPTEMBER: Ennschede: K Foster (N), 2:14:19. Glasgow: P Fleming (GB), 2:17:46. Berlin: G Lammont (Bel), 2:13:37; woman, K Goldswich (GB), 2:40:32.

OCTOBER: Chicago: J Nezu (Ken), 2:09:49; woman, R Mago (Ken), 2:31:12. New York: R Mago (Ken), 2:31:12; woman, G Watz (Nor), 2:27:46. Melbourne: J Kanga (Tan), 2:13:30; woman, S Dusen (US), 2:15:16; woman, C

Kristiansen is confident that she can break the course record of 2:25:29, set by her compatriot, Grete Waitz, last year, which equalled the then world best.

One man who appreciates the unsuitability of the situation is Mike Gratten, last year's coach. Cliff Temple, maintains that he was over his peak when he won last year and that this time he is on the way up.

The men most likely to impede that ascent are John Graham, Charlie Spedding, Kevin Forster, Steve Kenyon, Dave Murphy, Chris Bunyan and Ian Thompson.

Trio who threaten Mrs Smith's place in LA



Marot: has improved since giving up work

If the locals of Upper Dean in Huntingdonshire are not tending their gardens first thing tomorrow, the answer lies in the London Marathon. They have not been able to spot their home-grown girl in her three previous London marathons but they should have no trouble this time. With the BBC's full live coverage of Britain's most inexplicable sporting spectacle, the elite women, who start ten minutes before the rest of the field, will be front stage until around the halfway mark and Priscilla Welch should be up there with the rest of them.

Mrs Welch did little to make Upper Dean sit up on past attempts but she participates this year as Britain's number one woman marathon runner, at 39 years old, having succeeded Joyce Smith. She is after the British record. "If I don't get it then Sarah Rowell will," she said.

Her husband and coach, David, has been staggered by the transformation in her thinking. "Normally she is just going out to enjoy it and it doesn't matter whether she comes first or 21st. It is a complete change in attitude."

She recalls feeling fresh after the New York marathon, when her time of 2hr 32min 31sec hoisted her into second place on the British all-time list. Since then she has completed an average 100 miles a week in training, including multiple track sessions of five x 1,000 metres with only short recoveries. Even earlier this week she was running further than she was supposed to in the 'rest' period before the race.

Mrs Smith, 46, mother of two children, winner of the first two London marathons and an international competitor for half her life, is confident that she no longer alone has to fight for national respectability against improving world standards. Last year it became too



Welch: "has completely changed her attitude"

much for her and she opted out of London because she could not cope with the pressure.

If Mrs Welch, Miss Rowell and Veronique Marot, two much younger women, run as expected on Sunday, Mrs Smith, after all her years of flying the flag, may be deprived of a place in the first Olympic marathon for women.

She is taking a chance that three British women do not get inside 2hr 34min. "I am finding now that my body takes longer to recover between marathons and if I were to run London I would not have enough time to recover for LA. I am gambling that three British girls do not run faster than my time in Helsinki (2hr 34min 26sec), but if they do, I shall wish them well and not put on a British vest again."

Miss Marot is aiming for 2:31. "I have broken all my best times in training," she says, "having had optimism an improved running since she gave up work, following her 2hr 36min 34sec in New York last

October. She does a maximum of 90 miles a week.

One wonders why a Frenchwoman should bother with the London marathon when there is a perfectly good one in Paris the same weekend. An Olympic place would be hers for the taking in France and a national record within her grasp.

"I am settled in England and have been here for eight years. I feel British and I want to run for Britain even if it is harder to get selected. It is strange in France and I don't consider it my home any more."

She has not lost sight of the fact that it could be she who lays the wreath on Mrs Smith's international career. "I would feel self-conscious if I went to the Olympics instead of her. She has done such a lot for British running and has been an inspiration to me."

At 21, Miss Rowell carries Britain's best hope of a major breakthrough. She has refused interviews for fear of suffering a fate similar to that which befell Mrs Smith under pressure last year. Her time of 2hr 39min 11sec last year was achieved on four months serious training and without a qualified coach. Now in the charge of Cliff Temple, who coached Mike Gratten to London victory last year, she is a dark horse to watch.

Should anything go wrong with Ingrid Kristiansen's announced attempt at recording the second fastest time by a woman, (Joan Benoit's 2hr 22min 43sec is way out of reach), Britain could have a London winner once again. It could be the French girl who exiled herself to Britain, the hockey player born in West Germany but now living in Kent, or the girl who showed not the slightest potential as an athlete more than two decades ago in Upper Dean.

David Powell



Rowell: refuses to put herself under pressure

FOOTBALL AND OTHER WEEKEND FIXTURES

First division
Birmingham C v Southampton
Manchester U v Norwich C
Everton v QPR
Ipswich T v Aston Villa
Leicester C v Sunderland
Notts County v Liverpool
Stoke C v Wolverhampton W
Tottenham H v Manchester Utd
Watford v Arsenal
West Bromwich v Luton T
West Ham v Nottingham Forest

Second division
Barnsley v Carlisle Utd
Cardiff C v Sheffield Wed
Crystal Palace v Blackburn R
Fulham v Oldham Atd
Grimsby v Chelsea
Leeds Utd v Charlton A
Manchester City v Cambridge Utd
Middlesbrough v Huddersfield T
Newcastle Utd v Brighton
Preston v Swanssea C
Sheff Wed v Derby County

Third division
Bournemouth v Bradford C
Brentford v Watford
Burton v Walsley
Gillingham v Southport Utd
Hull C v Bristol Rovers
Lincoln C v Port Vale
Millwall v Exeter C
Oxford Utd v Rotherham Utd
Plymouth Argyle v Orient
Preston v Bolton W
Sheff Wed v Newport County
Wigan Atd v Southend Utd

FA Trophy: Basingstoke City v Northwich Victoria (at Wembley)
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton v Manchester Utd (2.30); Second division: Oldham v Wigan (2.30)
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal v Crystal Palace (2.30); Reading v Southampton (2.30); Tottenham v Manchester Utd (2.30); Watford v Arsenal (2.30); West Bromwich v Luton T (2.30); West Ham v Nottingham Forest (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE
Preston v Wigan (2.30)
Wigan v Warrington (2.30)
Warrington v Rochdale (2.30)
Rochdale v Salford (2.30)
Salford v St Helens (2.30)
St Helens v Wigan (2.30)
Wigan v Warrington (2.30)
Warrington v Rochdale (2.30)
Rochdale v Salford (2.30)
Salford v St Helens (2.30)
St Helens v Wigan (2.30)
Wigan v Warrington (2.30)

Scottish premier division

Celtic v Dundee Utd
Dundee v St Johnstone
Hibernian v Rangers
Motherwell v Hearts
St Mirren v Aberdeen

Scottish first division

Alloa v Airdrie
Brechin v Clydebank
Clyde v Hamilton
Dumbarton v Ayr
Falkirk v Partick
Motherwell v Raith
North v Kilmarnock

Scottish second division

Arbroath v Albion
Berwick v Dumfries
East Stirling v Cowdenbeath
Forfar v Montrose
Queen's Park v Stenhousemuir
Stirling v Queen of South
Stranraer v East Fife

CRICKET

IRISH AND HOBBS CUP (11.0 start, 55 overs)
DUBLIN: Gloucester v Hampshire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Glamorgan
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Nottinghamshire
LEICESTER: Lancashire v Warwickshire
Worcestershire v Warwickshire
PERTH: Scotland v Yorkshire
OXFORD: Combined Universities v Surrey

TOMORROW

JOHN PLAYER LEAGUE (2.0 start, 40 overs)
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Nottinghamshire
LORDS: Middlesex v Essex
TAUNTON: Somerset v Sussex
THE OVAL: Surrey v Glamorgan
Worcestershire v Warwickshire

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford are favourites for premiership

By Keith Macklin

The last big final of the season at Headingley today provides the opportunity for a new name to be inscribed on the plinth of the Premiership Trophy, sponsored by Slalom Lager. Castleford, having disposed of Widnes, winners of the Cup and Hull the Premiership favourites, in the two previous rounds, play Hull Kingston Rovers.

Castleford surprised Hull by winning at the Riverside, the Hull coach, admitted afterwards that his team had been well beaten. Castleford expect to be at full strength after checks on Kevin Beardmore and Atkins.

Hull Kingston Rovers, the champions, have not performed very convincingly since winning the title.

Castleford have a reputation for throwing everything into attack and leaving alarming gaps in defence, but I expect them to maintain the former, tighten the latter and win.

Len Casey, the Hull Kingston Rovers captain, yesterday failed in a bid to get an interim High Court injunction setting aside his eight weeks plus six months disciplinary suspension period. Mr Justice Drake heard Queen's Counsel for Casey and the League, but ruled that the disciplinary rules were "lawful and the ban not excessive". Had the interim injunction been granted, Casey could have played in today's premiership final.

HOCKEY

Ireland change captain for England game

By Sydney Friskin

Ireland have dropped their captain, Mark Sinnamon, of the London team, for the final matches against England today and tomorrow in Dublin. Sinnamon, who has scored 46 goals in 29 matches this season, was for private reasons unable to attend a training weekend after which the team was selected.

Sinnamon's place as captain has been taken by Steve Martin (Belfast YMCA), a member of the Great Britain standby squad for the Olympic Games. McConnell, also from the British squad, is at centre forward for both the weekend matches, which are to be played at Grange Road, Terenure.

IRELAND (front): D. Larmour, P. Shaw, C. Alderson, M. Burns, P. Cooke, M. O'Brien, E. Cummins, R. Gaherty, J. O'Connell, S. Martin (captain), W. McConnell, K. Morris, N. McIlrath, J. McKee, M. Scobie, J. Warrington.

ENGLAND (front): T. Taylor, J. Hurst, P. Barber, J. Durre, R. Dods, D. Faulkner, N. Mallett, N. Hughes (captain), J. Foster, A. Baines, R. Carr, P. Albion, M. Gentry, J. Cox, S. Barry, R. Leman.

Three tournaments

Three women's national hockey tournaments are being played indoors this weekend at Crystal Palace (Joyce Whitehead writes). The top 10 school teams from the five counties, plus the top five winners, start and finish today; and the top 10 clubs play tomorrow, after which the Mercian Sports Trophy will be presented.

GYMNASTICS

Futures in the balance

Sixteen outstanding youngsters compete at Wembley today for the title Junior Gymnast of the Year, in the annual event sponsored by Thames Television (Peter Aykroyd writes).

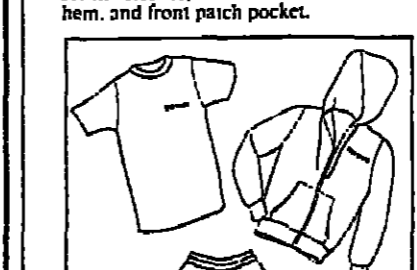
The winning boy and girl will each receive a training grant of £500 as well as an almost certain guarantee of selection in future full internationals. Today's competitors have reached Wembley by beating a field of thousands in regional and zone qualifying rounds.

THE TIMES SPORTS AND LEISURE SET

More and more people are beginning to appreciate the importance of taking some sort of regular exercise, whether it's jogging, squash, keep-fit classes or weight-lifting. These good quality, stylish sports garments complement each other beautifully to provide a smart versatile kit for a wide variety of sporting activities.

The T-shirt, shorts and hooded zip jacket are American-made by Mr President, from a machine washable combination of cotton and man-made fibres. The whole set is available in traditional sweatshirt grey with the title of 'THE TIMES' printed in soft navy blue block on the left-hand breast of the T-shirt and jacket and on the left top of the shorts. The T-shirts are fine-knit with a crew neck and short sleeves, while the shorts are in a heavier fleecy lining fabric with short leg elasticated waist and smart navy blue piping on the seams. Ideal for energetic sports and leisure activities, as the soft absorbent fabric is soft and easy to wear.

The hooded zip jacket is the perfect sports cover-up, and would also look smart over jeans or tracksuit trousers. Made from the traditional fleecy lined sweatshirt material, it has a strong metal zip, hood with drawstrings, set-in sleeves, stretch-knit cuffs and hem, and front patch pocket.



The size range of sizes should suit most people.
T-shirt: S (32in-34in), M (36in-38in), L (38in-40in), XL (42in-44in) (50% cotton/50% polyester)
Shorts: S (28in-30in), M (30in-32in), L (32in-34in), XL (34in-36in) (90% acrylic/10% polyester/20% cotton)
Jackets: S (34in-36in), M (36in-38in), L (38in-40in), XL (40in-42in) (50% cotton/50% acrylic)

Prices: T-shirts £4.99, Shorts £5.99, Hooded jackets £15.95. Set of T-shirt, shorts and jacket £24.95

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BOXING

If Bruno takes Boncrusher on the chin he can climb the ladder

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

If NBC know anything about the fight game, then Frank Bruno, who has taken just three solid punches to the chin in 21 rounds, is not a fighter through, may not get away so lightly when he starts thumping James "Boncrusher" Smith at North Carolina around the ring at Wembley tomorrow night.

NBC are paying a very large sum for the fight, and the show is being Americanized to the point of being a heavyweight phenomenon and it would

managers claim that his opponents have been better than Bruno, 12 of them feeding the weight of Boncrusher's hands early and crumpling. So if Smith has the ability to get out of the way of Bruno's Sunday punch, a left hook, the Wembley fight may be the first time he has taken two hard blows to the chin, one after the other, and he should then know more about his world potential.

After seeing a slapdash sparring session at the Thomas A'Becket gym, some punters were not too certain whether Smith was much better than Bruno's other opponents. As one man put it, "When there's half a million pounds to be made, can you believe they are taking any chances? During sparring, Smith stood too square and flat-footed and appeared an easy target for Bruno's jab."

He did not look too fit, either, and came in for a lot of coaching from Emilio Griffith, the former world middleweight champion, though all this could be put down to the fact that Smith did not want the public to see any of his secrets.

It did seem, however, that Smith and his team have a sense of purpose, for should the unranked American win he will take over Bruno's ninth ranking in the world. Even though Smith is limited in ability, he appeared to have the heart to carry the fight to Bruno.

Another of Lawless' world-ranked boxers, Mark Taylor, takes on Buster Drayton, of the United States, the match will be knocked out by Jimmy Cable in one round.

Kaylor has been nominated as challenger for Tony Sibson's European title, and the European Boxing Union have put a September time limit on the bout.

Holmes warms up
Las Vegas (AP) — Larry Holmes sparred on Thursday for the first time since arriving here, getting intense rounds with Jerry Williams in preparation for his International Boxing Federation title contest against Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa, on June 8.

The 6ft 4in man from Magnolia has had only 14 contests, but his

Coddell back in business

Pat Coddell, of Birmingham, the former British and European featherweight champion, challenges the European junior lightweight champion, Jean-Marc Renard, of Belgium, at the Aston Villa Leisure Centre on June 16. Returning to the ring after an absence of 18 months, he stopped Kevin Pritchard, of Liverpool, at the Digbeth Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday night.

Pritchard could not cope with Coddell's stunning right hand and was dropped three times before the referee called a halt after 50sec of the fifth round. Coddell said afterwards: "A lot of people thought I was stupid to make a comeback, but I have proved them all wrong."

not go down too well in the United States if Bruno were found to be punching holes in an American doughnut at peak viewing time.

Certainly, from all accounts, the match was a sell-out. Smith's joint managers, Nelson Smith and Alan Kornberg, two real estate men, were in Tampa, Florida, for a Boncrusher contest. Bruno and Terry Lawless' manager, also were there for training. Before Smith's contest the two parties started talking about a fight between Bruno and Smith, and NBC, who were also there, thought it would be good idea and on less than 24 hours' notice, "We agreed on it later that night," Nelson said.

The 6ft 4in man from Magnolia has had only 14 contests, but his

hand, failed to compete in an eliminating contest in Paris, so no place was open to Wells when he won his ABA title.

The most interesting choice is the welterweight, Mickey Hughes, whose first contest in Los Angeles will also be his first international appearance.

TEAM: Light Flyweight: J. Lyon (Greenwich), St. Helena; Fly: P. Cordon (Crown), St. Helena; Feather: K. Taylor (Midland and Rochdale); Bantam: J. Wilson (Dorset); Welter: D. Griffith (Gwent), Wales; Welter: M. Hughes (St. Helena); Heavy: D. Young (Wrexham), Wales; Heavy: D. Young (Wrexham), Wales.

MOTOR RACING
A new chapter in the 57-year history of one of the world's most famous racing circuits will begin today with the inauguration of a new Brabham-BMW around a new 2.8-mile course to create its unofficial lap record. Motor racing and rallying, motor cycle and cycling, as well as skydiving, parachuting and hot air ballooning will all be represented to emphasize the wide sporting character of the new circuit.

The inaugural festival marks the end of two and a half years of intense activity involving site clearance, landscaping and construction work. The new circuit has meant an investment of more than £30m, including £2m spent on buildings, supporting facilities and environmental expenses. Accommodation has been provided for 150,000 spectators, 10,000 of whom can be contained in 13 grandstands, from any one of which a main part of the circuit can be viewed. The track had 14 corners.

In 1978, when the circuit layout was defined, Porsche's computer predicted a potential lap time (with a Porsche 935 endurance racing car) of one minute 35.13 seconds, for an average of 105.7 mph, with a fastest speed on the start-finish straight of 173 mph. It seems likely, however, that a current grand prix car will be able to match the race average of 117.2 mph which James Hunt recorded in 1976 to win the last German Grand Prix to take place on the old 14.2 miles course.

The arrival of the new Nürburgring does not mean the end of the old, which will be known as the "Northloop". This is to be retained for touring car races, rally special stages and endurance testing. This course will also be accessible to the public to drive round in their own cars on payment of a lap fee.

As a Mercedes-Benz, driven by

Brentwood players were also in fine form for England in the Olympic Day International at Crystal Palace on Monday.

England beat Scotland 23-19, with Brentwood players dominating the scoring. Dempsey got seven and Reids, the player-coach, five. Hendrick, the Brentwood goalkeeper, saved a last-minute penalty. In the women's match, a full British team lost 20-15 to the fast-breaking French Seals.

Brentwood '72 are favourites to retain their English National League title after a 21-17 defeat of their closest rivals, Liverpool, on Mersey-

Liverpool still lead by two points, but Brentwood have two games in hand. Only Birkbecken can upset them — they have to play Liverpool at home and Brentwood twice.

Against Liverpool, Brentwood were never headed as Tropp and Dempsey scored six times each.

Eddery coaxes Out Of Shot home

By John Karter

If there were any classic clues contained in yesterday's Oaks trial, sponsored by Esal Bookmakers at Lingfield Park it would have taken a Sherlock Holmes to find them. On the other hand, you certainly did not have to be a master of detection to spot the exquisite way that Pat Eddery "stole" the prize on Out Of Shot, a filly who clearly believes that there are better things in life than running yourself stupid on a race track.

However, if that performance provided something to savour on the journey home, the sight of two horses and three jockeys crashing to the ground amid a forest of flying hooves in the 15th runner Sleeping Partner Handicap at the end of the day sent most observers on their way with a sick feeling in their stomachs.

Paul John, Guy Harwood's apprentice, was suspended for five days, for careless riding, after the stewards found that he had caused the horrific accident when he pulled up his mount, Close To You, to veer right across the track one and a half furlongs out.

The thoughtful move meant that Rumz, ridden by another apprentice, Simon Whitworth, had nowhere to go, ran into the base of Close To You, bringing down Tokaido, the favourite and the mount of Philip Robinson. Richard Lines, on Kallista Antaris, was also knocked out of the saddle in the melee.

Whitworth was rushed to hospital with a suspected broken jaw, broken hand and concussion. Amazingly, how-

ever, Lines was unhurt and Robinson, who gained his first classic victory when he rode Pebbles, to win the 5500 Guineas at Newmarket only nine days ago, was able to hobble away with a bruised knee and hopes resume at Bath today. Both the fallen horses were virtually unscathed.

To return to more pleasant things, Eddery, the season's leading rider, had to use all his considerable powers of persuasion to coax the "temperamental lady", as John Dunlop, Out Of Shot's trainer, described her, past her rivals with a furlong to go. Then, as Out Of Shot began to swish her tail, Eddery had to cajole her with the utmost tenderness to hold the flying finish of Spinelle by a whisker.

The time of the trial was not fast and you surely need a pretty vivid imagination to visualize Out Of Shot triumphing at Epsom. However, Dunlop was clearly delighted and believes that with a faster pace in the Oaks itself — for which she is quoted at between 25-1 and 33-1 — the daughter of Shirley Heights will surprise a good many people.

Those bold souls who laid odds of 2-1 on Harwood's new arrival, Overturnup in the opening Tender King Maiden Handicap, must have been wringing their hands at two furlongs out as Brian Rouse brought the colt under pressure. Instead of lengthening his stride like the high-class young horse he was reputed to be, Overturnup looked as green as the grass he was racing on as he began to veer across the course.

However, once he realised

RACING: HARWOOD APPRENTICE BANNED FOR FIVE DAYS AFTER LINGFIELD MELEE

Derby trial looks at Alphabtim's mercy

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

A year ago Lingfield's Derby trial, sponsored by Highland Spring Ltd, pointed to Tecnoso doing even better at Epsom. Now admirers of Alphabtim, the colt who won the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster last October and The Guardian Classic Trial at Sandown last month, will be hoping for similar encouragement.

While conceding that it is possible to pick holes in Alphabtim's overall form, it must also be said that it is hard to name one to beat him today. Guy Harwood was clearly surprised to see the colt win at Sandown because the colt does so little on the gallops at Pulborough that it is impossible to derive encouragement from his homework. But that is nothing new. It was the same old story last season.

The important thing is that Alphabtim does what is required of him on the racecourse. At Sandown he ran on much too strongly for Trojan Fen, who had won his previous race at Newmarket. Fatsalf and Seismic Wave, what he achieved there he should manage again against what looks to be weaker opposition and over a distance which should suit him even better, considering that he has already been hailed as a possible winner of the St Leger.

Those who have backed Alphabtim to win the Derby will be looking for his ability to act on a course similar to Epsom. It will also be interesting to see how Bye Bye Birdie fares in this company, as this is the colt who ran Fuke King at Sandown, a classic horse, and so close in the White Rose Stakes at Ascot 10 days ago. However, Bye Bye Birdie appeared to have an exceptionally hard race that day and Alphabtim is preferred.

Those in search of a bet at long odds should consider Caballo, my nap selection to win the Mirror Group Newspaper Handicap. Caballo has been slow to find his

form this season but he took three races last season before he hit the target. He has also won twice at Brighton, which means that he should act well around Lingfield.

Of more immediate significance was that good run at Kempton a week ago behind Hawker, who drew attention to the strength of the form by winning again at Salisbury on Wednesday.

Barra Head will have a whole host of admirers following that fluent win at Newmarket last Saturday, when he was second for Quailair Prince, who wasted little time in giving the form a boost by winning at Kempton two days later. However Barra Head has been penalized for that victory and as a

National Hunt cards and French preview Page 30

result he will be meeting Caballo on 8th May terms than when there was only half a length between them at Doncaster last October.

With course specialists Wids Range and Romoss both standing their ground for the Thyrsk Hunt Cup no one should be surprised if they see a similar finish to the one 12 months ago when Wids Range won by a short head. Only this time I expect Romoss to get his revenge now that he has beaten Wids Range on a slightly better terms. Romoss also ran well at Newcastle recently when he finished third behind Moores Metal and Vintage Toll.

It could also pay to follow Paul Coles two runners at the Yorkshire Hunt. His Dream (1-45) and Cantious Style (1-15).

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RACING

Yashgan can earn Derby run by winning Prix Lupin

By Desmond Stoneham

Yashgan, currently fourth favourite for the Derby, can earn his place as a contender by winning tomorrow's Group one Prix Lupin over ten and a half furlongs at Longchamp. The colt has been well supported in the ante-post market even though he only has two winning performances to his credit.

Last month Yashgan, ridden by Yves Saint-Martin, showed top class acceleration to beat Creation by a neck in the Prix de Guiche which was run at a snail's pace until the straight. Saint-Martin again has the ride tomorrow. Creation dominated the form by winning the Prix Matchem at Evry and his stable companion, Mendez, could be the one to chase Yashgan home.

Recent rain will be to the advantage of Mendez. Winner of the Prix de Fontainebleau and more recently third to Siberian Express and Green Paradise in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains.

Andre Fabre saddles Arctic Song and Carrière, as well as Green Paradise. With the changed going, Fabre believes that the stamina of Green Paradise will be stretched to the limit so Carrière may be the best from this stable. In the 11-furlong Prix Noailles, Carrière stormed home by four lengths but the opposition was none too strong.

The highly-rated Majestic is in selection for the one-mile Prix de Jonchère, on the assumption he will be able to handle the testing ground. This colt won the Prix Davout unchanged and will have most to



Yves Saint-Martin: rides Yashgan in Prix Lupin.

fear from Mikos and Truculent who finished second and fourth respectively in the Prix de Fontainebleau before disappointing in the Poule d'Essai.

Majewski, the Prix Jean Prat winner, is selected for this afternoon's Grand Prix d'Evry with Railou, Esprit Du Nord and Marie De Litz the main dangers.

Three National Hunt meetings

Market Rasen

GOING: good to firm

2.15 AVELING-BARFORD HYVITA SELLING HURDLE (2499.2m) (9 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th
9	9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th

2.45 BRANTHAM NOVICE CHASE (Amateurs) (2,100.2m) (7 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th

3.15 DOROTHY, VISCOUNTS FORTMAN HANDICAP HURDLE (E1,190.3m) (10 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th
9	9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th
10	10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th

4.15 LINDOLSHIRE MAIDEN HURDLE (Amateurs) (2,781.2m) (16 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th
9	9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th
10	10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th
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14	14th 14th 14th 14th 14th 14th 14th 14th 14th 14th
15	15th 15th 15th 15th 15th 15th 15th 15th 15th 15th
16	16th 16th 16th 16th 16th 16th 16th 16th 16th 16th

4.45 LOUTH HANDICAP CHASE (E1,448.2m) (8 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th

5.00 REED CORRUGATED CAGES NOVICE HURDLE (E1,120.2m) (4 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th

5.30 WESTBURY HURDLE (E280.2m) (10 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th
9	9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th
10	10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th

5.50 REED CORRUGATED CAGES NOVICE HURDLE (E1,120.2m) (4 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th

6.30 TANT PIS HANDICAP CHASE (E1,523.2m) (4 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th

7.00 JACK FAUCUS CHALLENGE CUP (Amateurs) (2,941.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

Hexham

GOING: firm

5.30 MARGARET MARGARET HANDICAP CHASE (E206.2m) (10 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th
9	9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th 9th
10	10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th

6.00 DEVILS WATER SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (E458.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

7.00 JACK FAUCUS CHALLENGE CUP (Amateurs) (2,941.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

7.30 DRYTON MILL NOVICE CHASE (E162.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

8.00 MICHAEL HENDERSON HANDICAP HURDLE (E666.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

8.30 TIM DOODY ROAD MARKING STAKES (NH Flat race E601.2m) (8 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th
7	7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th 7th
8	8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th 8th

8.50 MICHAEL HENDERSON HANDICAP HURDLE (E666.2m) (6 runners)	
1	1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st 1st
2	2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd 2nd
3	3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd 3rd
4	4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th 4th
5	5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th 5th
6	6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th 6th

9.00 MICHAEL HENDERSON HANDICAP HURDLE (E666.2m) (6 runners)
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Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

Sunday

BBC 1

Open University (until 8.25).
The Saturday Picture Show introduced by Mark Curry. Maggie Philbin is with the Mobile Picture Unit in Skegness. In the studio are former world and Olympic sailing champion Fiona Wilson and the pop group Musical Youth who sing two numbers. Plus the usual cartoons and games.
Film: Love Happy (1945) starring The Marx Brothers. Madcap escapades as Groucho searches for the stolen Romanoff diamond. Directed by David Miller. 12.27 Weather.
Grandstand introduced by David Coleman. The line-up is: 12.25 Football focus with Bob Wilson; 1.00 News; 1.05 and 4.00 Golf from the Moortown course, Leeds. Coverage of the Car Care Plan International; 1.55, 2.25 and 2.55 Racing from Lingfield Park; 2.10 The London Marathon. A preview of tomorrow's run; 2.20 Olympic preview; 2.40 Boxing. Archie MacPherson with the story of Benny Lynch, a boxer brought up in the rough world of Glasgow's Gorbals district in the 1930s; 3.10 Rugby League: The Salford League. A preview of the match between Salford and Hull Kingston Rovers; 3.55 Half-time scores and reports; 4.00 Final scores.
News with Jan Leeming. 5.15 Sport. A preview of the 1984 Wimbledon tennis tournament. An extended episode to introduce a new series featuring a holographic hero who started life as a character in a computer game and ended up as the most potent crime-fighting figure in the Los Angeles Police Department (Cee-fax titles page 170).
Film: The Bridge at Remagen (1969) starring George Segal. World War Two exploits about the German Army's struggle towards the end of the war, to destroy an important bridge and the American Army's efforts to thwart their endeavours. Directed by John Guillermin.
The Val Doonican Music Show. The first of a new series starting on the 15th. The guests are Keith Harris and the recently-formed group, Oasis.
Cagney and Lacey. The lady crime fighters move into the sleazy world of pornography when they investigate a death in unusual circumstances.
News from Jan Leeming. Plus sport.
Match of the Day. Jimmy Hill introduces highlights of two matches from the last day of the league season featuring teams engaged in promotion or relegation battles.
Film: The Omega Man (1971) starring Charlton Heston. Science fiction drama about a man who believes he is the last person to have immunity for a plague caused by germ warfare. Directed by Boris Sagal.
Weather.

Radio 4

25 Shipping Forecast.
30 News. Morning has broken. 6.55 In Perspective with Rosemary Parry. 8.55 Weather. Travel: Programme News.
10.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers.
10.15 On Your Farm.
10.45 In Perspective.
10.55 Down to Earth. Mike Gibson asks Alan Titchmarsh about jobs in the garden this weekend.
11.00 News. 8.10 Today's Papers.
11.15 Sport On 4. The latest sports news presented by Tony Vasey.
11.45 Yesterday in Britain. 8.57 Weather. Travel. 9.00 News.
11.55 Yesterday in Britain. Travel and leisure stories.
12.00 News. Review of weekly magazines.
12.05 The Week in Westminster.
12.10 Pick of the Week. TV and radio extracts.
12.15 From Our Own Correspondent. BBC correspondents report from around the world.
12.20 News. Money Box.
12.25 The News. A clue with Tim Brooke-Taylor. Willie Rushton. Game Garden and Barry Cryer. 12.55 Weather.
1.00 Any Questions? From the European Parliament Building, Strasbourg. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
1.57 News.
2.00 Thirty-Minute Theatre. "Unlucky Call" by Judy Allen.
2.15 Medicine Watch. A report on the health of medical care.
2.18 Wildlife.
2.20 Wildlife. Weekly programme about the environment.
2.25 International Assignment. Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for 300,000.
2.30 Fields of Gold. This programme looks at the growing of oil seed rape, which has become more and more popular in the last few years.
2.35 Week Ending. Satirical review of the week. 2.55 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. Travel. Programme News.
6.00 News. Sports Round-up.
6.25 Desert Island Discs.
7.05 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson.
7.45 Baker's Dozen with Richard Baker.
8.30 Saturday Night Theatre. "Burglars" by Allan Prior. 9.58 Weather.

REQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/225m; 108.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/143m; 908kHz/133m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 1500kHz/150m; VHF 82-95; LBC 152kHz/281m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 154kHz/143m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.3; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BC1 Wales. 5.15pm-5.20 Sports. 5.20 News. 5.25am-5.30am. 10.10-10.15 Sports. 10.15-10.20 Sports. 10.20-10.25 Sports. 10.25-10.30 Sports. 10.30-10.35 Sports. 10.35-10.40 Sports. 10.40-10.45 Sports. 10.45-10.50 Sports. 10.50-10.55 Sports. 10.55-11.00 Sports. 11.00-11.05 Sports. 11.05-11.10 Sports. 11.10-11.15 Sports. 11.15-11.20 Sports. 11.20-11.25 Sports. 11.25-11.30 Sports. 11.30-11.35 Sports. 11.35-11.40 Sports. 11.40-11.45 Sports. 11.45-11.50 Sports. 11.50-11.55 Sports. 11.55-12.00 Sports. 12.00-12.05 Sports. 12.05-12.10 Sports. 12.10-12.15 Sports. 12.15-12.20 Sports. 12.20-12.25 Sports. 12.25-12.30 Sports. 12.30-12.35 Sports. 12.35-12.40 Sports. 12.40-12.45 Sports. 12.45-12.50 Sports. 12.50-12.55 Sports. 12.55-1.00 Sports. 1.00-1.05 Sports. 1.05-1.10 Sports. 1.10-1.15 Sports. 1.15-1.20 Sports. 1.20-1.25 Sports. 1.25-1.30 Sports. 1.30-1.35 Sports. 1.35-1.40 Sports. 1.40-1.45 Sports. 1.45-1.50 Sports. 1.50-1.55 Sports. 1.55-2.00 Sports. 2.00-2.05 Sports. 2.05-2.10 Sports. 2.10-2.15 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